Gap Year Internship Programs
2020 - 2021

Cohen Children’s Medical Center
New Hyde Park, New York
Cohen Children’s Medical Center:
Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children's Medical Center of New York is dedicated to providing the highest levels of care in meeting the special needs of children, from premature babies to adolescents. The specialists in its national and international programs cover a range of specialties. Its 202-bed hospital opened in 1983 as the New York metropolitan area's only hospital designed exclusively for children. Today it is the largest provider of pediatric health services in New York State. Cohen Children's Medical Center serves 1.8 million children in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties – providing state-of-the-art care for children's medical, surgical, psychiatric and dental needs in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

Northwell Health:
Northwell Health is a not-for-profit healthcare network that includes 23 hospitals, the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell, the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, as well as rehabilitation and skilled nursing facilities, a home care network, a hospice network and progressive care centers offering a range of outpatient services. Northwell Health has more than 12,000 member physicians, and Northwell Health’s Physician Partners employs more than 3,100 physicians and is comprised of more than 550 regional ambulatory locations and physician practices.
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<td>Developmental &amp; Behavioral Pediatrics</td>
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<td>9-12 months</td>
<td>3/2/20</td>
<td>Christine Peck</td>
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<td>General Pediatrics</td>
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<td>Medical Genetics and Human Genomics</td>
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2020 - 2021 “Gap Year” Clinical Research Assistant
Position in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics

**Description:** A 9-12 month paid internship program in clinical research related to child development and neurodevelopmental disorders is offered by Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York – part of Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System).

This Clinical Research Internship offers 3 - 4 accomplished students the opportunity to work closely with faculty mentors on research projects related to normal or abnormal child development. Research Assistants (RA’s) will assist clinical faculty with ongoing research projects and/or work collaboratively with one or more mentors in designing new projects of mutual interest. The Division has internal funding for clinical research. RA’s are not expected to write grants, and their research endeavors and activities are not dependent on extramural grants. Although the internship is primarily focused on clinical research, there may also be an opportunity to co-author a review article for publication in a peer-reviewed pediatric journal (see details below).

This clinical research internship is open to students who excelled while pursuing their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. Although the ideal candidate is a student who aspires to attend medical school in the near future, has a strong academic record and writing skills, research experience, knowledge of statistics, and a demonstrated interest in psychology, child development, and/or neuroscience, we welcome applications from any students who have excelled in any area of study.

**Research Focus:** The faculty have eclectic interests, as reflected in the diverse list of recent abstract presentations (see pages 7-15 below). The two primary mentors are Dr. Andrew Adesman and Dr. Ruth Milanaik. Dr. Adesman is interested in secondary analyses of data made available by the CDC and other national organizations, though he has also initiated several studies that involve collection of original data nationally on important topics that have not been well studied (e.g., wandering by children with autism; grandparents raising their own grandchildren). Dr. Milanaik is primarily interested in projects that require collection of original data – either from retrospective chart reviews, prospective data collection coincident with out-patient visits, or in some cases, through mailings or on-line surveys.

**Research Abstracts:** RA’s will be co-investigators on multiple research abstracts submitted to national research meetings. A list of research abstracts accepted for presentation at national meetings since 2012 is attached.

**Research Abstracts/Publications:** With guidance from faculty mentors, RA’s will be responsible for drafting and revising research manuscripts for submission to peer reviewed pediatric journals. RA’s will generally be identified as either the first or second author of any paper submitted for publication.
**Review Article:** There may be an opportunity for RA’s to be first or second author on a review article for a peer-reviewed medical journal. This article would be clinically focused, relating to a specific developmental disorder or behavioral concern.

**Program Dates:** Start and completion dates for the Gap Year internship are somewhat flexible. Priority will be given to applicants prepared to make at least a full-time 9 month commitment or longer, though alternate schedule arrangements will be considered. With advance notice, research interns may take as many days off (without pay) as needed during their internship to visit medical schools for interviews.

**Other Activities/Expectations/Opportunities:** The primary focus of the internship is clinical research and writing. It is expected that this will comprise 90% of one’s time. RA’s will have the opportunity to attend clinical lectures about child development, developmental disorders and other lectures of interest available through the Children’s Hospital. There will also be opportunities for occasional shadowing of clinicians in our sub-specialty area and other pediatric sub-specialties as well. RA’s may occasionally be asked to assist with other academic or administrative tasks.

**Stipend:** This is a paid internship; interns will be paid $16.50 per hour for days worked.

**To Apply:** You must submit a completed application (PDF attached), a résumé, and an unofficial transcript. All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line "Gap Year Research Internship Application – Last Name, First Name" to Ms. Christine Peck at CPeck@northwell.edu.

**Application Process & Deadline:** The submittal deadline is Monday, March 2, 2020 at 12 noon EST; all materials must be received by that date. The most promising candidates will be invited to interview by Skype in early March, and notification of decisions will be made shortly thereafter.

**Past Interns:** The Gap Year Internship program was established in 2014. All of our Gap Year RA’s have been accepted to multiple medical schools. Although these RA’s are typically very strong applicants even prior to participating in our internship program, the Gap Year internship program typically adds multiple abstracts and publications to each RA’s list of accomplishments. Moreover, RA’s often find it very helpful to discuss one or more of their different Gap Year research projects when interviewed by medical schools.

**For Further Information:** The research internship is coordinated by Dr. Andrew Adesman, Chief of the Division of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. Questions regarding the Gap Year internship or the application process may be directed to his assistant, Christine Peck, at 516 802-6101 (CPeck@northwell.edu).
**Additional Information:** On the following pages, we have provided you with some additional information that may be useful:

- **Research Abstracts:** To give you a sense for the breadth, scope and volume of research topics that we have pursued in recent years, you will find on pages 7 – 30 the titles of research abstracts that have been presented at one or more of our nation’s most prestigious pediatric research meetings.

- **Testimonials:** Each January, we ask our Gap Year research assistants and summer interns to provide us with feedback about their research experience. You can read the unedited comments from all of our Gap Year research assistants since 2014 (pages 31 – 43) as well as the unedited comments from all of our summer interns since that program’s inception in 2010 (pages 44-65).
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.aps-spr.org)
2019 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

51 abstracts were accepted to the Pediatric Academic Societies 2019 National Meeting

14 abstracts had a summer research intern as 1st author

6 abstracts had a summer research intern as a co-author

23 abstracts had a Gap Year research intern as 1st author

34 abstracts had a Gap Year research intern as a co-author

ADHD

- Children with ADHD and Household Chores: Relationship between Parental Expectations and Chore Completion Poster

Autism

- Helping Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders to Understand their Diagnosis: the Role of Physicians Poster***

- Increased Risk of Mental Health Hospitalizations and Psychiatric Comorbidities in Gender-Diverse Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders Poster*

- Supporting the Needs of Gender-Diverse Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their Families Platform*

Breastfeeding

- An Analysis of Parental Opinions of Human Milk Sharing Options Poster*

- Are Physicians Helping with the Donor Human Milk Shortage?: Physicians’ Self-Reported Knowledge of Breast Milk Donation and Practices Recommending Poster**

- Got Milk? Perceived Need for Outreach and Compensation for Milk Bank Donation amongst Women with a Self-Reported Oversupply of Breast Milk Poster**
• Preference for Informal Milk Donation in Women with an Oversupply of Breast Milk
  Poster*

• Reported Perceived versus Actual Barriers to Breast Milk Donation to Milk Banks
  Poster**

• The Resurgence of the Wet Nurse
  Poster

• What Factors Are Important to Mothers of Multiples When Deciding to Breastfeed Beyond Infancy
  Poster

• Where Does Milk Come From?: Likelihood of Mothers who Participate in Formal and Informal Milk Sharing of Informing Pediatricians
  Poster**

• Where to Get Donor Breast Milk? Self-Reported Parental Motivations and Concerns Regarding the Choice of Informal Milk Sharing versus Milk Banks
  Poster*

Cardiology
• Assessing the Impact of Cardiac Conditions and Other Chronic Illnesses on U.S. Children's Likelihood of “Flourishing”
  Poster

Dental Health
• Prevalence and Correlates of Bleeding Gums and Other Oral Healthcare Problems of Children and Adolescents in the United States
  Poster

Digital Media
• Digital Media Use versus Non-Digital Family Interaction: Associations with Early Childhood Flourishing
  Poster

• Early Childhood Digital Media Use: Inverse Associations with Sleep Time Consistency and Sleep Duration
  Poster

• Examining Parental Concerns with Young Children’s Media Usage and Citation of AAP Guidelines: What’s Covered? What’s not?
  Poster
Drugs and Alcohol

- Driving When Using Marijuana and Driving When Using Alcohol among U.S. High School Students  
  Platform*

- Driving When Using Marijuana is Associated with Other Risky Motor Vehicle Behaviors among U.S. High School Students  
  Platform*

- Driving When Using Marijuana is Associated with Other Substance Use among U.S. High School Students  
  Poster*

- Electronic Vapor Product Usage and Alcohol- & Drug-Related Risk Behaviors in U.S. Adolescents: Data from the 2017 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey  
  Platform*

- Electronic Vapor Product Usage and Sexual Risk Behavior in U.S. Adolescents: Data from the 2017 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey  
  Poster*

- Underage Drinking and the Impact of Parents on Adolescent Decisions: A Blog Study  
  Poster**

Education

- Healthy and Ready to Learn: The Impact of Early School Attendance on School Readiness of Preschool-Aged Children in the United States  
  Platform

- Should High School Curricula Place a Greater Emphasis on Health-Related Topics?  
  Poster

Gluten-Free Diets

- Knowledge Deficiencies of Pediatric Residents Regarding Celiac Disease and Gluten-Free Diets  
  Poster*

- Parental Blog Opinions on the Implementation of Gluten Free Diets for Children  
  Poster*

- Pediatric Residents’ Self-Rated Comfort with and Knowledge of Celiac Disease  
  Poster*

Grandparents
• Discipline Beliefs of Grandparents Raising Their Own Grandchildren: Are They Sparing the Rod When Not Spoiling the Child?

Menstruation and Menstrual Products
• Assessing Pediatricians’ Self-Rated and Measured Knowledge of Normal Menstrual Patterns During Adolescence
• Pediatricians’ Self-Rated Knowledge and Likelihood of Discussing Feminine Hygiene Products
• Talking Tampons with Female Adolescents: Pediatrician Knowledge, Attitudes, and Patient Education Practices Regarding Tampons

Naloxone
• Evaluating the Availability of Naloxone and the Accuracy of Information Provided by Pharmacy Employees Regarding Naloxone Dispensing Protocol

NICUs
• Breast is Best? The Influence of Breastfeeding Campaigns on NICU Mothers who Exclusively Breastfeed Compared to Mothers Who Are Unable
• Does the Receipt of Donor Breast Milk by NICU Infants Negatively Affect the Emotional Well Being of NICU Mothers?
• Seeking Support: Internet Habits of Parents during their NICU Infant’s Stay

Obesity
• Comparing the Depiction of Different Body Types in Live-Action and Cartoon Children’s Television Programming
• Differences between Mothers’ and Fathers’ Perception of Infant Weight Status and Opinions Regarding Childhood Obesity
• Too Much Baby Fat?: Parental Perceptions of Healthy Infant Body Size
• Typecasting Obesity?: Portrayal of Different Body Types in Popular Children’s Television Programming
Parenting Magazines

- An Analysis of Caregivers’ Gender Representation in Popular Parenting Magazines
- The Race for Representation: Ethnic and Racial Diversity in Mainstream Parenting Magazines
- The Underrepresentation of Individuals with Special Needs in Mainstream Parenting Magazines
- Weighting for Representation: Body Type Diversity in Mainstream Parenting Magazines

Screening and Assessment

- Improving Detection of Mental Health, Behavioral, & Developmental Delays/Disorders (MBDD) in Children of Hispanic, Limited-English Proficient (LEP) Families
- Screening Children with Sickle Cell Disease for Neurocognitive Deficits with a Brief Questionnaire
- Screening for Mental Health, Behavioral & Developmental Disorders (MBDD) in Pediatric vs Family Practices

Ultraviolet Protection

- Do Children’s Sunglasses Provide Adequate Ultraviolet Protection, or Do They Still Pose a Risk to the Long-Term Eye Health of Children?

Wandering

- Financial Barriers to Electronic Tracking Device Use among US Children with Developmental Disabilities at Risk of Wandering
- Gender Disparities in Wandering Prevention and Response Planning for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.aps-spr.org)
2018 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

Academics
- Too Cool for School: Examining Portrayals of Academics in Children's Television Programming
- Impact of Beta Binaural Beats on Academic Performance of Children with ADHD
- Effects of Therapy Putty Usage on Academic Performance and Perceived Attention to Task in Students with ADHD
- Comfort of Adult Care Physicians Treating Patients Transitioning from Pediatric Care Who Have ADHD and a Co-Morbid Mood or Neurodevelopmental Disorder.

ADHD
- Spread The Word! Examining the Spread of Misinformation Regarding Antibiotic Diversion on Parenting Blogs
- Diversion of Prescription Antibiotics: Should You Take from Peter to Treat Paul

Antibiotic Diversion
- Is Guidance from Healthcare Professionals Associated with Increased Use of Wandering Prevention Measures by Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders?
- Parental Practices for Informing Children and Young Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders about their Diagnosis
- Informing Young People with Autism Spectrum Disorders about their Diagnosis: Beneficial Effects on Self-Advocacy and Awareness
● Telling Your Child They Have Autism Spectrum Disorder: Barriers and Unmet Needs of Parents

● Should the AAP Recommend Mental Health-Behavioral-Developmental Screens Beyond 30 Months of Age?

● Does the MCHAT-R Detect Similar Children at Risk for Developmental-Behavioral/Mental Health Problems as Broad-Band Screens like PEDS?

Breastfeeding

● Does Family History of ADHD Explain the Association Between Breastfeeding and Child ADHD?

Cardiology

● Assessment of Pediatric Cardiology Referral Practices for Inpatient and Outpatient Post-Cardiac Surgery Physical Therapy

● Assessment of Pediatric Cardiologist Adherence to the 2012 American Heart Association Recommendations on Neurodevelopmental Evaluation and Management of Children with Congenital Heart Disease

Grandparents as Parents

● Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Are Parenting Grandparents Able to Meet the Educational Needs of Children in the 21st Century

Guilt

● Mommy and Daddy Shaming: Gender Differences in External Sources of Guilt

● Gender Differences in Medical, Educational, and Sociocultural Components of Parental Guilt

Neonatology
• NICU Clinicians’ Opinions and Concerns on the Efficacy of Cuddler Programs

• Variation in Infant Characteristics for Participation in Volunteer Infant Therapeutic Touch Programs

Obesity

• Not So Sure About Pediasure: Assessing the Relationship of BMI and the Incorporation of Nutritional Supplements in Ideal Meal Plans

• Picking Processed Foods: Assessing Differences Between Picky and Non-Picky Eaters

• Parent Perceptions of Snack Portion Sizes and Relationship to Child’s Weight Status

• Just Have One: Discrepancies between Suggested Serving Sizes Printed on Snack Packages and Child Serving Sizes

• How Much Is Too Much: Are Parents Aware of the Appropriate Serving Sizes for Children?

Sleep

• Prevalence and Parental Perceived Efficacy of Rice Cereal in Bottles Used as a Natural Sleep Aid for Infants Aged 0-11 Months

• A Pediatrician’s Nightmare: Frequency of Use and Parental Perceived Efficacy of Non-Approved Infant Sleep Products

• Parent Reported Frequency, Efficacy, and Side Effects of Over the Counter Medication Use for Improved Sleep in 5 to 11 Year Olds

• Prevalence of Use and Reported Parental Perceived Efficacy and Side Effects of Herbal Sleep Supplements in Children Aged 0 to 5 Years

Sports

• Consumption of Sports Drinks by High School Students in the United States: Five-Year Trends and Risk Factors
● Academic Performance is an Important Mediating Factor in the Relationship between Sports Team Participation, Smoking, and E-Cigarette Use by High School Students in the United States  

Poster

● Safety First? Parental Perceptions Regarding Protective Sports Gear for Youth Participating in Recreational and Competitive Sports  

Poster**

● Demographic Differences in Protective Sports Equipment Usage Among Children  

Poster**

● Frequency of Shin Guard Use in Youth Soccer: Recommendations Vs. Reality  

Poster**

Technology/Media Usage

● Digital Device Diversity: Prevalence and Autonomy of Digital Device Usage in Children Aged 0-3 Years  

Platform*

● Digital Dependence in Diapers: An Examination of Internet Addiction Symptoms in Children Aged 0-3 Years  

Poster*

● Baby See, Baby Do: Parental Influences on Toddler Digital Device Usage  

Platform**

● It’s All Fun and Games Until Someone Loses an Eye: Prevalence of Potential Unintentional Injuries Observed in Public Baby Videos  

Poster*

● Prevalence of Potential Dangers and Abnormal Gait Patterns Observed During Baby Walker Usage  

Poster**

*  Summer research intern as 1st author  
**  Summer research intern as co-author  
***  Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
ADHD

- Inverse Relationship between State-wide Prevalences of ADHD and Breastfeeding in a Nationally Representative Samples of Children in the United States
  
- ADHD and Respiratory Allergies in Children: Correlation between the State-wide Prevalences for These Conditions

- Impact of Medication on the Ability of Children with ADHD to Do Household Chores

- Children with ADHD and Household Chores

Autism

- Characteristics of Elopement and Its Impact on Families in a National Sample of Children with ASD

- Mitigating the Risks of Wandering: Use and Effectiveness of Prevention Strategies in a National Sample of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

- Impact of Tracking Device Technology on Quality of Life for Families with a Child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Obstacles to Use of Electronic Tracking Devices for a National Sample of Children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder

- School Response to Wandering Concerns in a National Sample of Children with ASD

- Anticipatory Guidance by Healthcare Providers and Others about Wandering by Children with ASD

Adolescents (Electronic Cigarettes, Augmented Reality Video Games and Sports Drinks)

- Sports Team Participation is a Weak Protective Factor for E-Cigarette Use by High School Students in the United States

- Impact of State Legislation on Use of E-Cigs and Other Electronic Vaping Products by Adolescents in 35 States

- Consumption of Sports Drinks by High School Students in 2015: Associations with Physical Activity and Television Viewing
Breastfeeding

- Racial and Ethnic Differences in Importance of Support from Healthcare Providers, Family, and Friends for a Mothers' Decision to Breastfeed Beyond One Year of Age
- Association between Maternal Education and the Importance of Recommendations from Healthcare Providers and Others on a Mother’s Decision to Breastfeed Beyond 12 Months

Grandparents as Parents

- Potential Health Risks to Children When Grandparenting Raising Their Grandchildren's Subscribe to Out-Dated Health Beliefs
- Adequacy of Psychosocial Supports for Grandparents Raising Their Own Grandchildren
- Parenting Experiences and Self-Perceived Parenting Abilities of Grandparents Raising Their Own Grandchildren

Idiopathic Toe-Walking

- Are Pediatrician Warnings Coming Too Late? Concerning Prevalence of Baby Walker Usage Infants and Toddlers
- Risk Factors Associated with Idiopathic Toe-Walking

Injury Prevention and Anticipatory Guidance

- Pediatricians Make a Difference: Effects of Anticipatory Guidance on Parent Compliance with Child Safety Guidelines
- Grandma Still Knows Best: Information Sources Parents Use for Child Safety Guidance
- Safety Seat
- Babies Walk the Walk, Pediatricians Talk the Talk

Medical Education/ Resident Knowledge and Opinions

- Deficiencies in Developmental Oral Health Knowledge among Pediatric Residents
My Tooth Got Knocked Out! Inadequate Knowledge among Pediatric Residents on Preventive Oral Health Topics
Perceived Lack of Oral Health Training in Pediatric Residency Curricula Among Pediatric Residents
The Pediatrician’s Role in Oral Health Practice: Perceptions of Oral Health Promotion in Primary Pediatric Settings Among Pediatric Residents
Self-Perceived Inability of Pediatric Residents to Recognize Symptoms of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
The Dangers of Losing Herd Immunity: Insufficient Pediatric Residents’ Knowledge about Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Minorities and Underserved Populations
Disparities in Compliance and Recollection of Receiving Anticipatory Guidance from a Pediatrician

Obesity
Food Consumption by Characters on Popular Children’s Television Shows: Are Children Aware of Character Food Choices
You Eat What You See: The Association between Foods on Popular Children’s TV and Increased Body Mass Index
Defeating the Health Halo: Parental Food Choices for Grade-School Children
Taste vs. Health: Factors Affecting the Way Parents of “Picky-Eaters” Make Food Decisions for their Children

Potpourri
Where Are All the Dads? The Underrepresentation of Fathers in Mainstream Parenting Magazine Advertisements
Technology

- Paging Dr. Google: The Effects of Online Health Information on Parental Trust in Pediatricians’ Medical Diagnoses
- Parent Confidence in a Pediatric Diagnosis of Autism: Impact of Web-Based Medical Information

Maternal Depression

- False Positive Ages and Stages Questionnaire-3 Results May Be Related to Maternal Depressive Symptoms

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.pas-meeting.org)  
2016 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

**ADHD**

- Formula Feeding Is Associated with Higher Risk for ADHD in Preschoolers  Platform*
- Breastfeeding and Later ADHD: Are There Dose Effects or a Continuum of Benefits in Benefit in Babies Who Are Also Formula Fed  Platform**
- Age at Diagnosis and Treatment of ADHD in Children in the U.S.: Impact of Race and Clinical Severity  Poster
- Clinical & Treatment Correlates of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Use for ADHD  Poster
- Use of EEG Neurofeedback for School-Age Children with ADHD  Poster
- Accommodating to the Needs of Youth with ADHD: Support for Classroom Accommodations by Primary Care Pediatricians  Poster
- Parent Perception of their Child's ADHD Symptoms: Severity at Worst vs. Current Severity  Poster
- Parent Satisfaction and Issues with Access to ADHD Treatment  Poster

**ADOLESCENT HEALTH: MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

- Increased Risk of Aggressive Behavior among Victims of Multiple Forms of Bullying  Platform**
- Face-to-Face and Cyber Victimization Differently Associated with Parenting Style  Poster*
- Adolescents' Ease of Access to Marijuana Before and After Legalization of Marijuana in Washington State  Platform
- Perceived Stigma of Adolescent Marijuana Use Following the Legalization of Marijuana in Washington State  Poster
- Change in Adolescents' Perceived Risk of Marijuana Use Following the Legalization of Marijuana in Washington State  Poster
- Legalization of Adult Recreational Marijuana Use in Washington State and Teen Marijuana Use Relative to U.S. Trends  Poster
- Youth Aggression/Delinquency: Association with Poor Parent Temperament Alone and in the Context of Other Parenting Styles  Platform***
ANTICIPATORY GUIDANCE & INJURY PREVENTION

- Chew On This: Not All Products Labeled First Finger Foods Are Created Equal  
  Platform**
- Underuse of Proper Child Restraints in Taxis: Are weak laws putting children in danger?  
  Poster*
- Availability of Car Seats Offered by Taxi Companies in Urban U.S. Cities  
  Poster
- Lack of Parental Adherence to AAP Safety Guidelines: Poor Recollection of Anticipatory Guidance by Physicians  
  Poster**
- Physician Discussion of AAP Car Seat Safety Guidelines: Unexpected Racial Disparities  
  Poster**
- Child Safety Issues: Parents Want More Advice from their Pediatricians!  
  Poster
- Racial and Ethnic Differences among U.S. Women Regarding Their Decision to Breastfeed Beyond One Year of Age  
  Poster
- Peanut-Containing Products in Children's Hospitals: Putting Pediatric Patients at Risk  
  Poster**

AUTISM

- Wandering Prevalence in Youth Ages 6-17 with Autism Spectrum Disorders  
  Poster
- Clinical Correlates of Wandering in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders  
  Poster**
- Wandering Prevention in Youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders  
  Platform***
- Factors Associated with Parent Satisfaction with Emergency Visits When the Patient Has Autism  
  Poster***

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

- Psychiatric Correlates of Bullying Victimization in Children with Developmental Disabilities  
  Poster**
- Parental Beliefs about the Etiology of Developmental Disabilities  
  Poster**
- Prevalence of Genetic Testing among U.S. Children with Developmental Disabilities  
  Poster**
- Writing Prescriptions for Motor Therapies: Primary Care Pediatrician Knowledge and Comfort  
  Poster
MEDICAL EDUCATION
- How Do Primary Care Pediatricians Perceive the Adequacy of Their Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics Training during Residency? Poster
- Prevalence of Depression Symptoms of Pediatric Residents Poster*
- Examining Sleep Habits of Pediatric Residents: Accumulating Sleep Debt Poster

NICU/NURSERY
- An Examination of NICU Nurses' Training with Regards to Feeding Infants Poster
- Effect of a Uniform Educational Feeding Program on Nurses' Comfort Levels Feeding Poster***
- Variation in Neonate Swaddling Techniques in Hospitals Poster***

PARENTS OF NICU/PEDIATRIC PATIENTS: MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS
- Maternal Self-Efficacy and Maternal Depressive Symptoms on Parent-Child Joint Book Reading Platform*
- Parent Concerns in Developmental Screening May Suggest Maternal Depression Platform
- PTSD Scores Among Mothers and Fathers of NICU Graduates Aged 1 to 36 Months Poster*
- Support Systems for NICU Parents Poster
- Comparison of PTSD Scores of NICU Parents Across Infant Gestational Age Categories Poster**
- Leading Stress Factors Reported by Parents of NICU Infants Poster

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** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Platform Presentation:

- Risk Factors for Physical and Sexual Dating Violence among Teens*
- Immediate Impact of Newly Implemented Texting While Driving Laws on Teenagers in the United States, 2011-2013*
- Bidirectional Gender Bias in Over-the-Counter Supplement Recommendations: A Comparative Study*,**
- Over-The-Counter Testosterone Boosters And Underage Teens: Easy Access And Misinformation Provided By National Retailers*,**
- Relative Risks of Depression and Suicidal Tendency Among Victims of School- and Electronic-Bullying With Co-Risk Factors*
- Relationship between Caregiver Distractions and Children's Risk Taking Behaviors on a Playground**,***
- Playground Observation Study: Come, Play, Put your Electronic Device Away**,***
- Low Health Literacy (HL): Potential Barrier To Using Parent-Completed Developmental Screening Tools (PCDST)

Poster Presentations:

- Victimization of High School Students: Impact on School Attendance and Weapon Carrying Behaviors*
- Support and Maternal Ratings of Factors that Influence Mothers' Decision to Breastfeed Beyond One Year of Age: Healthcare Providers, Family, and Friends*
- Breastfeeding Toddlers & Preschoolers: Is it More Common with Boys or Does the Mass Media Sensationalize Nursing?*
- An International Comparison of Factors that Influence a Mother's Decision to Breastfeed Beyond 1 Year*
- The Relationship between Seat Belt and Bike Helmet Use in U.S. Teens*
- Transportation Safety: The Effect of Primary vs. Secondary Seat Belt Enforcement Laws on Seat Belt and Bicycle Helmet Use*
• A Comparison of Texting While Driving by Teenagers: Driver Age and Experience*

• Body Image as a Mediator of Daily Consumption of Non-Diet Sodas in Overweight and Obese Teens*

• The Role of Diet in Teenage Obesity: Daily Fruit & Vegetable Consumption*

• Consumer Ratings of Baby Walkers: Ignoring the AAP’s Warning?*

• Prematurity-Associated Growth Problems: A Parent's Perception of Risk*,**, *

• Parental Perception of Risk Associated with Prematurity*,**, *

• Parent Understanding of Age Correction and Developmental Patterns of Their Premature Infant*,**, *

• Weight Loss and Underage Teens: Supplement Recommendations from National Retailers*,**, *

• An Examination of Structural Obstacles between Neonatal Intensive Care Units and Delivery Rooms for NICU Response Teams*,**, *

• Gender Differences in Risk of Weapon-Carrying By Adolescents Who Are Victims of Bullying*

• Impact of Physician Training and Prescribing Volume on ADHD Patients Being Educated About Stimulant Diversion & Misuse*

• The Impact of State Laws Regarding Contraception Access and Use by Teen-Age Girls in the United States*

• Assessing Community Participation among Children with Developmental Disorders: Analysis of the 2011-2012 National Survey of Children's Health*

• Transition Readiness Among Teens and Young Adults With Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder***

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.pas-meeting.org)

2014 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

Platform Presentations:

- Association between Victims of Bullying and Weapon Carrying Among High School Students in the United States***
- Exponential, Not Additive, Increase in Risk of Weapons Carrying by Adolescents Who Themselves Are Frequent and Recurrent Victims of Bullying***
- Is Bottle Feeding Really a Risk Factor for Preschool ADHD?
- Prevalence and Student Perceptions of Prescription Stimulant Misuse at an Ivy League College*
- Comparison of Processing Speed, Math Performance, and Reading Performance in ADHD Children on Paper vs. Digital Interfaces* , **

Poster Presentations:

- Physician Perceptions and Knowledge of Diversion of Stimulant Medications for ADHD*
- Physician Practices To Prevent Diversion of ADHD Stimulant Medications*
- Association between Asthma and Physical Activity in Teens: Analysis of Representative National Data from the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)*
- Stability of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Diagnoses in Children Ages 2-17: Analysis of 2011-212 National Survey of Children's Health Data*
- Medical Evaluation of Children with Intellectual Disability: Clinician Non-Compliance with Published Guidelines*
- Faux Pas Recognition Testing as a Measure of Social Deficits in Children with ADHD: Assessment and Comparison with Parent Predictions*
- Relationship between Cognitive Development and Touchscreen Device Usage in Infants and Toddlers* , **
- Correlation of Touchscreen Device Usage and Television Viewing with Feeding Habits, Night Waking episodes, and Parent Frustration: A Pilot Study* , **
* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.pas-meeting.org)
2013 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

**Platform Presentations:**

- Smoking Policy on College Campuses: Influence of Sociodemographic Factors **
- Early Sexual Debut in the United States: Longitudinal Analysis of National Data from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System from 1991 – 2011*
- Electronic Bullying and Recreational Video/Computer Time in U.S. High School Students*
- Medication Management of Preschool ADHD by Pediatric Sub-Specialists: Non-Compliance with AAP Clinical Guidelines***

**Poster Presentations:**

- Texting While Driving among High School Students: Analysis of 2011 Data from the National Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)*
  - Selected for Student Research Award, which included a $1,000 prize
- Sexual Risk Taking Behavior among US Teens: Update 2011*
- Diagnostic Evaluation of Children with Autism: Real-Life vs. Recommended*
- Parent vs. Teacher Ratings of Core and Associated Behaviors of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Preschoolers*
- Early Introduction of Solid Foods to Premature Infants and Impact on Feeding Behaviors**, ***
- Failure to Adjust for Gestational Age When Plotting Premature Infant Growth and Its Impact on Parental Satisfaction**, ***
- Prevalence and Duration of Breastfeeding in ADHD vs. Non-ADHD Children Ages 3–5: Analysis of 2007 National Health Survey Data***
- Clinical Criteria for Pharmacotherapy in Preschool Children with ADHD***
- The History of Amphetamines: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly!* [historical poster]
* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Pediatric Academic Societies (www.pas-meeting.org)

2012 National Meeting: Research Abstract Acceptances

Platform Presentation:

• Are Some Disabilities More Handicapping than Others? A Comparison of Teacher Grading of Children with Medical, Physical and Behavioral Disabilities*

Poster Presentations:

• Preschool ADHD and Impact on Family Functioning: Analysis of National Children's Health Survey 2007 Data*

• Long-Term Developmental Outcome of Children Whose Mothers Reported Loss of Fetal Activity During Pregnancy

• Stimulant Diversion and Access in Households with Children on Stimulant Medication for ADHD

• Is Tourette Syndrome More Common in Children or Adolescents with Atopic Disease? Analysis of a Population-Based Sample of Youth in the United States***

• Neuromotor Outcome of Young Children Whose Mothers Reported Loss of Fetal Activity

• Major Shortcomings of the Short Version of the Conners' Rating Scales-Revised for Diagnosing ADHD, Inattentive Type in Children

• Utilization of Questionnaires in Assessment & Management of Preschool ADHD: Analysis of Data from the 2007 National Survey of Children’s Health***

• ADHD Medication Holidays: Factors Involved in the Parental Decision Whether or Not to Continue Medical Treatment during the Summer ***

• The Guthrie Test: A 50-Year Retrospective on Screening for Phenylketonuria [historical poster; not research]

* Summer research intern as 1st author
** Summer research intern as co-author
*** Pediatric resident or fellow as 1st author
Comments from 2019-2020 “Gap Year” Research Interns:
(solicited, but unedited)

“My gap year internship at Cohen Children’s Medical Center has allowed me the opportunity to explore topics of interest to me, collaborate with incredibly motivated and enthusiastic peers, and work with mentors who truly have our best interests at heart. While I loved conducting research during my undergraduate years, I was initially worried about how I would handle the independence given to gap year interns during this program. However, I quickly learned that while Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik want us to gain independence as researchers, they are also so helpful in teaching us about the research process and how we can bring a project of interest to us to life.

Not only are Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik encouraging research mentors, they also have been so supportive of each of us throughout the medical school application process. From giving us flexibility in our schedules to giving advice for update letters, they have made this process far less stressful for us. Additionally, the opportunities I have had in this internship to interact with patients and families, extrapolate from interactions to inform research interests, and learn more about the multifaceted role of a physician has strengthened my love of medicine and helped me better understand what I want in my future career.

Another highlight of this internship was the opportunity to work with incredible fellow interns. They took on every challenge without hesitation, were genuinely excited about the projects we undertook together, and supported each other throughout the medical school application process. They truly are some of the brightest people I have ever had the privilege of working with, and working with them fostered a supportive and collaborative environment that helped us all succeed.

Applying for this internship was the best decision I could have possibly made for my gap year, and I cannot recommend it enough to those considering applying.”

-- C.C., Washington University in St. Louis

“The gap year internship at the Cohen Children’s Medical Center had everything I was looking for in a post-baccalaureate program, and then some. I hoped to find a clinical research position that would allow for project independence and creativity, have ample opportunities to improve my scientific thinking and writing, and connect me with life-long mentors. Looking back, working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik during this internship has exceeded all my expectations.

Through my research experiences in undergrad, I knew that I worked best in labs where I could consult my mentor for advice but still had enough room to think for myself and make my own decisions about the direction of my project. And that is exactly how this program is set up: Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are happy to let me take the lead on as many projects as I am interested in but also never fail to make room in their busy schedules to answer any questions I may have. Project independence aside, I also treasure the creative freedom gap year interns have when coming up with new studies. As long as the project is feasible, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are eager to help realize studies on almost any topic. The wide breadth of topics consequently allows gap year interns to explore several areas of interest—a unique opportunity that few other labs can offer. The multiple projects I have become involved in have consequently created numerous opportunities to present and publish my work at national conferences and in journals.

However, I would have to say what makes the gap year internship truly one of a kind is the chance to work with mentors like Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik. I feel so lucky to have such
amazing advisors who are so supportive, understanding, and eager to help. The fact that this attitude applies not just to research but also extends beyond to other areas of our lives—such as the medical school application process and our wellbeing—is a testament to how sincerely they care about each and every one of the gap years. Their values are further reflected by the stellar cohort of gap year interns they pick each year—my co-workers are all incredibly motivated and helpful, and it has been a pleasure getting to know and work with each of them. In retrospect, I am extremely happy with my decision to work at Cohen Children’s and cannot recommend this gap year internship highly enough!”

-- E.L., Yale

“The gap year internship in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at Cohen Children’s Medical Center is a wonderful opportunity for anyone looking to hone their research skills as they prepare for a career in medicine. Unlike most gap year positions available for college graduates, which tend to assign interns to existing projects, this program encourages interns to actively pursue their intellectual interests, allowing interns to experience all aspects of the research process, from developing a research question to navigating the peer review process. Although this freedom seems daunting at first, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik offer constant support and mentorship. Thanks to their guidance, in just nine months of working in this position, I have already had the opportunity to present my research at several national conferences, and I have coauthored three published works.

Their support extends beyond the office, especially during the medical school application season. Both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were our biggest supporters as we prepared our applications and traveled around the country for interviews, offering us not only advice for structuring our applications, but also a flexible work schedule to accommodate the demands of the application process.

In addition to the support offered by Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, the collaborative environment created by the amazing cohort of interns in this program has been an essential driving force in my development as a researcher. Each intern has brought a unique set of skills and perspectives to the position, creating an environment where we are constantly helping each other improve our projects as we learn from each other. Ultimately, it is this environment, in conjunction with the extensive mentorship of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, which makes me confident that this position is one of the best, if not the best, opportunities for anyone interested in contributing to the field of academic medicine.”

-- E.R., Cornell
“Working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik at the Cohen Children’s Medical Center has been an incredibly informative and rewarding educational experience. They truly empower their interns to pursue any research question that is ‘meaningful’ and ‘feasible’, while providing us with any guidance we would need to turn our interests into an original research project. Through this internship, I have been able to design and execute an entire survey research project, improve my scientific writing abilities, and refine my statistical analysis skills. I was a little intimidated to have so much freedom and responsibility over my research, but it has been a refreshing and unique opportunity to critically explore my interests in child development at a deeper level.

Both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were also always available and excited to assist us in every step of the research process. Whether it was helping us brainstorm project ideas, troubleshooting any issues that arose, or editing abstracts, they provided much needed insight and advice. They are both amazing role models who are not only great researchers and dedicated clinicians, but also fantastic mentors who genuinely care about your success and wellbeing beyond this internship. I definitely would not have been able to apply and interview for medical schools with relatively low stress without their flexibility and support.

One of the other remarkable features of this program is the collaborative work environment. I have had the privilege to work on a multitude of other projects and study new areas of pediatrics that I had never been exposed to before. My fellow researchers are all exceptionally hard working and passionate and have been an incredible source of support and advice throughout this experience.

Overall, I am extremely happy with my decision to spend my gap year here at Cohen Children’s and would certainly recommend it to anyone who wants to conduct interesting and meaningful research with a fantastic group of mentors and peers.”

-- R.G, Yale

“This internship is an incredible opportunity for those embarking on a gap year between their undergraduate careers and medical school. Not only do you develop a thorough understanding of each step in the research process, but you are also exposed to unique opportunities. For example, within my first few months in the office I was co-writing a textbook chapter regarding the potential health effects of augmented reality gaming on children and adolescents. Furthermore, I have gained considerable insight into a physician’s daily tasks and responsibilities.

Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are our biggest supporters. They are constantly encouraging us to explore topics we find interesting, providing productive and sincere feedback, and are extremely understanding of how inconsistent our schedules can become during the application process. Their primary objective is to prepare us as best they can, both as medical school applicants and future physicians.

The biggest benefit this internship provides is the privilege of working with such talented, thoughtful, and encouraging co-workers or in my mind, teammates. My fellow interns—summer and gap year—have supported me in a variety of ways, from providing constructive feedback and
unique perspectives on project ideas and abstracts to creating a spreadsheet of the best restaurants to grab lunch.”

-- D.J., Duke

“This gap year internship is one of the best for any competitive applicant interested in gaining firsthand research experience. When I was deciding what to do during my gap year, I had three priorities in mind: (1) having access to mentors invested in my success, (2) working with like-minded, driven peers, and (3) being able to develop my own projects. Through this internship, I have found my expectations exceeded. Each day, I have the opportunity to work with valuable mentors who are deeply invested in ensuring that I have the most productive, enjoyable gap year possible; collaborate closely with the four other gap year interns, with whom I have authored multiple abstracts and manuscripts; and grow my research skills by executing my own projects from start to finish.

Of equal importance, however, is how this experience has fulfilled aspects of a gap year that I didn’t even realize would be important. Throughout the entire application process, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were incredibly understanding, encouraging me to take the necessary time off to work on secondaries and perfect pieces of my application. They have also developed a work environment filled with people I genuinely like and who push me to grow. In my fellow interns, I have found long-term friends who have helped me with my applications and who I truly enjoy spending time with outside of the office. In Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, I have found mentors who have given me advice for my research, my medical school applications, and my future career. I am immensely grateful for this experience and cannot recommend this internship enough!”

-- N.S., University of Pennsylvania

“As a gap year intern, I have had the opportunity to hone my research skills while working in a collaborative, supportive environment. Since day one, Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman have continuously encouraged me to independently investigate research questions that I find most interesting. As a result, I have had the freedom to conduct research on topics that I am most passionate about, including an investigation surrounding adolescent menstrual health. My research projects were a common topic during my interviews, giving me the opportunity to talk about ideas that I care deeply about.

While Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik gave me independence, they also provided me with continuous support, using their vast research expertise to help guide me. They prioritize their role as mentors and despite their many responsibilities, they have an open-door policy, welcoming interns at all times. They are also extremely flexible, and were very understanding when I had to take time off to finish medical school applications and attend interviews, making a pretty stressful period so much easier!

In addition to learning from Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, I have had the immense privilege of learning from the other interns in my cohort. Each intern brings unique skills to the table and, by collaborating with each of them, I have been able to achieve research goals that I would have been unable to accomplish alone. I have also been able to build lasting friendships, and have cherished getting to know my coworkers outside of work as well.
At Cohen Children’s, I have developed skills essential to conducting research. I have also furthered my medical career by publishing my work. Most importantly, though, I have gained lifelong mentors and friends. I am so incredibly grateful for this opportunity and would encourage everyone to apply!”

-- M.S., Duke
Comments from 2017-2018 “Gap Year” Research Interns:
(solicited, but unedited)

“What began as a brief summer internship after my junior year of college has evolved into an extremely fruitful professional experience that has profoundly shaped my long-term career goals.

I first began working in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics in the summer of 2014, and was immediately impressed by the degree of freedom that Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik granted to their research interns. Whereas many research experiences for undergraduates require students to work on projects conceived by graduate students or other senior personnel, this position grants interns an unparalleled degree of intellectual autonomy. Students are given the opportunity to identify a research question of their choice and to take complete ownership of the project – from the conception of the idea to the publication of the findings in a peer-reviewed journal. This independence is balanced by the guidance of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, both of whom are exceptionally accomplished clinical researchers and extraordinary mentors.

Thanks to their guidance, I have had the opportunity to publish three first-author manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals and have given more than a dozen poster or oral presentations at regional and national research meetings. I have worked on numerous projects that I am truly passionate about, gaining experience with a diverse range of research studies – including large-scale epidemiological datasets, cross-sectional surveys, and prospective, longitudinal studies.

Overall, this opportunity is truly unmatched in its ability to prepare motivated undergraduates for productive careers in medicine and clinical research.”

-- B.K., Yale  (also a summer intern, 2014)

“As a premedical student with a fairly nontraditional background, I searched extensively for programs that combined my desire to conduct research with my passion for working with families and children, particularly those with disabilities. The Gap Year Internship Program fit my interests and career goals perfectly and I was absolutely thrilled to have the chance to participate in this one-of-a-kind opportunity.

Throughout my time as a Gap Year Intern, I have investigated topics ranging from supplementary learning tools for students with ADHD to pediatric medical education on vaccine-preventable diseases. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are brilliant researchers in the field of developmental and behavioral pediatrics and have been the most supportive mentors in helping me explore pediatric issues, synthesize questions, design whole studies, and write up abstracts and manuscripts for consideration to national conferences and peer-reviewed medical journals. Thanks to their guidance, all of my abstracts were accepted as either platform or poster presentations to pediatric conferences, and I even won an award for my work at one of these meetings! To date, I have published three papers with another two currently being reviewed and at least two others in the process of being written.

I cannot thank Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik enough for all the amazing opportunities I have had. My experiences and achievements during this program have by far been some of the strongest aspects of my medical school application and have been discussed extensively during my
interviews. Without a doubt, the skills I learned in this position will help me in my future research endeavors, and I wholeheartedly recommend this internship!

-- P.D., Cornell (also a summer intern, 2015)

“Under the mentorship of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, I have had the opportunity to pursue a myriad of research interests in a supportive and friendly environment. Dr. Adesman always says, “if it’s feasible and it is worthwhile, we can do it,” a motto that is truly emblematic of the freedom I have experienced in pursuing personal research interests. Given the encouragement and independence to collaborate with my peers, I have designed novel experiments, collected and analyzed data, and submitted several abstracts to national pediatric conferences. I am tremendously grateful to have the chance to learn from clinician-scientists like Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik as well as from my peers, whose diverse research interests have also informed and inspired my own.

This gap year position is undoubtedly an excellent choice for students interested in expanding their understanding of clinical research while having fun! Working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik has been the absolute best way to spend my gap year, an experience that has truly transformed my skillset as a scientist, renewed my interest in pursuing a career in medicine, and given me lifelong mentors. If you are looking for a rewarding year of research with warm, compassionate and driven colleagues, I strongly encourage you to apply!

-- K.F., Cornell

“Looking back, I am so happy I decided to spend my gap year conducting clinical research with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik at the Cohen Children’s Medical Center. This position enables college graduates interested in medicine and research to spend time honing their skills prior to medical school while working in a clinical setting with friendly, intelligent and like-minded peers and mentors.

While I frequently met with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik to discuss the projects I was working on, ranging from the UV protection provided by children’s sunglasses to the prevalence of antibiotic diversion, they encouraged us to work independently on all steps of each study, from composing IRB proposals to writing abstracts that were submitted to national pediatrics conferences. As a result of having this much autonomy, interns both learned a huge amount and received substantial recognition for their work, with several first author abstracts being submitted to prestigious conferences. I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik one-on-one to put together manuscripts and received considerable attention, only possible because of the small group of interns. Through designing research questionnaires, analyzing results and writing abstracts, I have become more experienced in many aspects of the research process that will help me in medical school and beyond. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are always receptive to our ideas for research projects and would always take the time to teach us about study design and manuscript preparation.

Importantly, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were extremely understanding of the demands of the medical school application process. They accommodated requests to take time off to work on secondary applications or prepare for interviews and were very supportive of our travels to visit
medical schools. I do not think I would have received as much support in any other gap year position!

I would recommend this position to anyone who is passionate about research and is hoping to work on a team with accomplished fellow interns and incredibly inspiring mentors!"

-- T.K., Cornell

“The first time I walked into the doors of this office, I was a summer intern who was just trying to get more research experience in a clinical setting. However, what I did not know at the time was that I would want to spend much more than a summer here. I decided to return for a gap year because of the amazing people I met and the experiences I had that summer. Since I returned, I have been working on projects I devised myself, such as one determining the outcomes/effects of NICU therapeutic touch programs, and collaborative projects with other interns, such as another assessing the electronic device usage of toddlers and young children.

In addition, I have had multiple opportunities to write literature reviews and original science articles for publication to top pediatric journals as well as abstracts for national conferences. Fortunately, Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman are there every step of the way and have provided us with a remarkable amount of their time given their many clinical responsibilities. They are extremely supportive of all of our ideas and consistently want to make sure that we are getting everything we wish for out of the internship. Moreover, the faculty, staff, and my fellow interns make coming into work each and every day a delight.

I have truly made lifelong friendships and continue to keep in touch with interns of the past. If you are looking for a warm and friendly place that will provide you with every chance to shine in the medical school applicant pool, you are in the right place. You will engage in many meaningful research projects while simultaneously being surrounded by the most wonderful people.”

-- S.S., Cornell

“I’m so grateful to Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik for the opportunities of this gap year position as a clinical research intern in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics! Unlike many positions that have students doing menial work, this internship lets interns get genuinely involved in projects and teaches them to tackle clinical observations through meaningful research projects on child development. Interns are given the freedom to come up with new projects and collect original data, as well as the opportunity to jump into exciting projects working with national data sets. With their support, I have had first authorship on multiple abstracts to be presented at pediatric research conferences and plan on having authorship on several manuscripts on topics ranging from household ADHD and breastfeeding to digital device usage in toddlers.

The internship’s unique structure puts you in an office community where you get to work closely with two mentors who genuinely enjoy working with students and constantly provide friendly support and guidance. They’re great at selecting fellow interns who create a collaborative, fun environment, and you also get to know the rest of the staff and see the working structure of a medical center department. Both doctors’ accommodations with the medical school application cycle -- from advice to time off for interviews/writing -- help to alleviate the cycle’s stress. These experiences foster development of not just academic writing skills, but also of discussion of clinically prevalent research topics, which was particularly helpful during interviews.
I’m so glad that I made the decision to spend my gap year at Cohen Children’s, and I’d recommend this position to anyone hoping to spend their year doing substantial research under the mentorship of two fantastic doctors committed to making your year productive and enjoyable!”

-- H.L., Cornell
Comments from 2016-2017 “Gap Year” Research Interns:
(solicited, but unedited)

“I am so glad that I made the decision to take a gap year and work as a clinical research intern at Cohen Children's Medical Center, under the guidance of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik. With my background in statistics, I have had the opportunity to conduct statistical analyses for a large variety of projects, the topics of which range from breastfeeding to the age restriction warning labels on energy drinks. Every project I have come across is interesting and of great importance to clinical practice. During my internship, I have had a lot of opportunities to write abstracts and manuscripts and make presentations at conferences. I have had three platform presentations and two posters accepted to the Eastern Society of Pediatric Research Meeting, and four first-author abstracts accepted to the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting. Currently, I am also working on multiple manuscripts for publication. I truly enjoy the research experience I have had through this internship.

I would also like to stress how friendly and supportive Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik have been throughout this internship. As a medical school applicant, I find the application process and the internship stressful from time to time. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik have been very accommodating regarding my travel needs, and they have been proactive to connect me to current and former medical students at the schools that I was interviewing at. Their help and support made this stressful process a lot easier. If I were to choose again, I would definitely make the same decision of working as a clinical research intern at CCMC.”

-- M.Z., Harvard

“This internship is a truly invaluable opportunity for motivated students wanting to get more deeply involved in research. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are experts in their field and genuinely care about the skills and ideas you bring to the table. After college, I knew that I wanted to explore healthcare issues impacting pediatric patients and their families. Under their mentorship, I was able to navigate my interests, carry out my own studies, and get involved in other exciting projects being conducted throughout the division. My research has culminated in numerous posters and platform presentations at pediatric research conferences, as well as lead and co-authorships on several review articles and manuscripts submitted to peer-reviewed medical journals. This position has taught me so much about the field of developmental and behavioral pediatrics as well as how to design and conduct research effectively. My experiences have reinforced my desire to enter medicine and given me a much clearer idea of the type of physician I hope to become. I cannot thank Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik enough for their unending support and guidance throughout my gap year and wholeheartedly recommend this unique position!”

-- P.D., Cornell

“Deciding to move across the country for this internship was the best decision I could have made for my gap year between undergraduate and medical schools. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik
provided me with all of the resources and tools to pursue any research project that I could dream of. There is endless freedom to conceive of and develop research protocol for any and all studies that might interest you. Even though we are encouraged to conduct much of the research independently, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik provide the necessary guidance and direction to ensure that the finished product is of high caliber and importance. During my year here, I have worked on projects that range from the risks of wandering by children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder to the impact of augmented reality video games on adolescent health. I have written four manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals, two of which have been published and two are in the process of being reviewed. I expect to write three more manuscripts in the final months of my internship. I will also have the opportunity to present my research at a major pediatric research conference this spring.

Additionally, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were tremendously supportive of my medical school application process and were understanding of any time that I needed to take off for applications or interviews. Although I am so appreciative that this internship has allowed me to conduct extensive meaningful research, the most rewarding aspect of this year has been the relationships that I developed with my mentors, fellow interns and other members of the staff working in the office. If you want to spend your gap year conducting important and substantial research surrounded by smart, engaged, thoughtful and passionate people, I strongly encourage you to apply for this one-of-a-kind research position.”

-- L.M., Washington University in St. Louis

“When I was first offered a position as a Gap Year Intern, I had to make a tough decision of whether to leave my job for the internship. Having spent a year working with Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman, I can say that I undoubtedly made the right decision in accepting the offer.

Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman were receptive to my research interests and helped me construct and execute projects that aligned with my long-term goals. They were also genuinely invested in the interns’ success in the internship and beyond. At times, it felt like they cared about boosting my CV more than I did. With their support and guidance, I was able to publish two manuscripts and plan to submit at least three more in the future on a variety of topics ranging from health implications of new age technologies, disparities in pediatric primary care, and the use of medical interpretation services to address language barriers in health care.

My experiences and accomplishments from this internship have also helped tremendously in the medical school admissions process. I spoke at length about my research at Cohen’s during all of my medical school interviews. After submitting my application, I was able to send substantive update letters to medical schools describing my projects and publications.

I highly recommend the Gap Year Internship to anyone interested in medicine, psychology, or research.”

-- Z.B., Baylor
Comments from 2015-2016 “Gap Year” Research Intern:
(solicited, but unedited)

My gap year in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics has been a tremendously rewarding experience. In the past seven months, I was first author on a review article published in a peer-reviewed pediatrics journal, and first or second author on numerous abstracts submitted to the 2016 Pediatric Academic Societies meeting. In the upcoming months, I expect to submit several more original research manuscripts to peer-reviewed medical journals. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik have broad interests in the field of pediatrics and have also been very receptive to my own ideas and objectives. You would be hard-pressed to find mentors who spend as much time and effort as they do to make sure that your year is productive, fulfilling, and fun!

Finally, I was incredibly thankful for how supportive Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were of my application to medical school. Given how time consuming the application and interview processes were, I found the flexibility of the work schedule to be invaluable to ensuring that I had a low-stress, but also highly productive, gap year. Without reservations, I would highly recommend this research position!”

-- T.P., Yale
Comments from 2014-2015 “Gap Year” Research Intern:  
(solicited, but unedited)

"This position allows you to pursue research in a clinical setting, with endless possibilities for research projects. I was able to conduct research that I was personally interested in, which made the experience very enjoyable and rewarding. I felt like a respected member of the office because my interests and ideas were valued and encouraged. The projects I was involved in ranged from risk behaviors in adolescent populations to perception of support received by breastfeeding mothers. The group of physicians in the office are very approachable and excited to collaborate on research studies and have you shadow them during patients’ visits. I also had the opportunity to attend pediatric research conferences throughout the country to present my research, learn about other research in the field, and interact with pediatricians. By the culmination of my year in the position, I prepared four manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed medical journals. The skills I have learned from this position in research, oral presentation, manuscript preparation and patient care continue to help me in medical school. I would recommend this position to self-motivated aspiring physicians or researchers who are looking for a clinically oriented and research-driven gap year experience."

-- A.T., Columbia
Comments from Research Interns – Summer, 2019
(solicited, but unedited)

“Working in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics this past summer has been an incredible experience. Coming into this internship with limited previous research experience, I did not know what to expect. However, Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik, and the gap year interns quickly helped me get acclimated and before long, I was working on my first IRB.

This clinical research internship is unlike any other in that you have the freedom to explore any research topic related to child development that is of personal interest to you. All of the interns are provided with the resources and support to design research projects that they are passionate about. Additionally, there are ample authorship opportunities, whether that be in the form of abstracts submitted to conferences or manuscripts published in peer-reviewed journals. For instance, this past summer, the summer interns worked in groups of three to publish two review articles in a peer-reviewed pediatric journal. Furthermore, the work environment is highly collaborative and inclusive, and I truly enjoyed getting to know all of the other interns. By the end of the summer, it felt like we were all part of one big family.

One of the most distinctive aspects of this internship is the unparalleled guidance and mentorship provided by Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik. Despite their busy schedules, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik took the time to provide each intern with personalized instruction and were genuinely invested in seeing us achieve our goals and grow as individuals. I am thankful to have had such a rewarding opportunity, and I would highly recommend this internship to anyone interested in pursuing a career in medicine or healthcare!”

-- D.W., Cornell

“I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to have partaken in the Summer Clinical Research Internship in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are genuinely so passionate about students taking the reins and directing their own research experiences. They will always make time for you, even though they are extremely busy individuals, in order to brainstorm with you, give realistic advice, and work out any roadblocks in your plans. Due to their relentless encouragement and evident investment in my goals, I developed a more robust desire to pursue my research interests over the course of the summer. The amount of freedom I experienced was undeniably unlike any that I have had in previous research experiences. I learned how to do a thorough literature review, develop my own research questions/plans, create surveys, obtain IRB approval, and co-author manuscripts. I even had the chance to submit my abstracts to regional and national pediatric research conferences – the opportunities afforded through this program are incredible!

Additionally, I had the privilege of getting to know a group of friendly, driven, and supportive peers. Through the help of my peers, I was able to hone skills like critically examining my own writing and being conscious of the audience to which I am writing. Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik, and the other interns always gave me thoughtful and constructive feedback with the intention of helping me grow as a researcher and writer. I believe that I improved greatly in my scientific writing abilities as a result of their guidance and critiquing. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik truly care about us as individuals, and this was evident not only in the way they treated us as capable and intelligent researchers, but also in the way they thoughtfully celebrated interns’ successes and
milestones. I highly recommend this program to any student interested in medicine who wants to have fun while engaging in impactful and self-driven research.

-- F.P., Cornell

“My experience at Cohen Children's was incredible - and certainly the best summer internship I have experienced thus far. Whether you are looking to design your own research project or use statistical analysis to analyze existing data, this internship is perfect for you. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are very supportive mentors and are definitely the best part of the program. They both foster a wonderful, collaborative atmosphere where interns are encouraged to co-author manuscripts with each other. In my opinion, they also do a good job of choosing interns who are inquisitive, hard-working, and just all-around awesome people, which enhanced the experience. (Indeed, many of us have kept in contact during the medical school application process!) I could not recommend this internship more!”

-- N.L., Yale

“I highly recommend this internship to anyone who hasn’t had a clinical research opportunity in the past. Through this internship, I was able to formulate my own research project and work under the guidance of Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman, as well as from my peer interns. I learned about the process of clinical research—ideation, submitting an IRB, data collection and analysis. I feel that this internship has prepared me well for future endeavors I may have in pursuing clinical research. Through this internship, I was able to co-author a review article and submit a few abstracts for conferences— two things I would have had no exposure to without this experience.

Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman, despite having busy schedules, always made themselves available to us if we had updates on our projects or needed an opinion on where to go with the ideas we had. I came in having no clue what I wanted to research, and they were very practical in their guidance, helping me formulate my research question to be answerable in the time frame that I had and relevant to pediatricians. They care about you doing well and will be there to offer suggestions if you feel lost and your idea isn’t panning out. They were incredibly supportive and I was even able to shadow Dr. Milanaik a few times which was a really great opportunity.

A key strength of this Summer internship is that you learn so much about the research process, not just from Dr. M and Dr. A but from the other Summer interns and the gap year interns. Everyone was so friendly! This internship is all about learning together and collaborating, bouncing ideas and feeding off each other. Dr. M and Dr. A do a great job curating a learning environment where help isn’t just passed down from them but where everyone’s background and expertise is valued and help comes from teaching each other.

Overall, I feel super thankful for this experience because it gave me a solid foundation for future work I may have as a medical student and as a clinician.”

-- S.H., Yale
“I was fortunate to be able to spend the “last summer of my life” between my first and second years of medical school in the department of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at Cohen Children’s Medical Center with Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman. As someone who has considered a career in pediatrics for many years, this experience helped me to explore and solidify the reasons behind that desire.

I’ve had experience with both bench and clinical research, but never have had the opportunity to pursue research that entirely stems from my own passion and interests. This honestly makes doing research so much more fun. The project I focused on for the summer investigated pediatrician attitudes, practices, and barriers in providing sex education to adolescents with intellectual disabilities. I was driven by the disparities in sexual health outcomes in this population, which provided the fuel for me to power through the project. Along the way, Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman provided me with guidance and advice, helping me to focus my ideas and produce my own survey, which was distributed to physicians throughout the country.

I am thankful to have had this research experience, which seamlessly struck the balance between hard work and enjoying the company of the other interns. Additionally, everyone in the department is super friendly and so you have the opportunity to hear about interesting clinical cases and learn from a variety of talented physicians. Highly recommend to anyone considering a future in pediatrics or developmental disabilities!”

-- V.T., Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

“As an intern in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics at Cohen, you’ll have an unparalleled level of self-directedness, ownership of your work, and support from your fellow interns and from Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman. While most other research experiences for undergraduates consist of helping to execute a pre-existing project or research direction, this is a truly unique opportunity to develop your own vision for your research. The range of topics that interns typically focus on are really practical, interesting, and fun. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are also very helpful in the process of submitting papers for publication. I may not have gotten the opportunity to be the first author on a published paper elsewhere, let alone Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik’s genuine enthusiasm and investment in all of the interns’ success. Additionally, Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman are hugely skilled clinicians and I really enjoyed the opportunity to shadow them several times throughout the summer. Finally, the other summer and gap year interns were the most amazing, kind, driven, and smart people to work alongside every day and truly the ideal summer colleagues. This is an incredibly rewarding internship that I strongly recommend!”

-- L.S., Yale
“I cannot recommend the Cohen Children’s Medical Center internship in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics highly enough. I believe that this internship is truly unique among undergraduate clinical research experiences with respect to the freedom each intern is afforded to explore personal research interests, the strong mentorship and individual guidance provided by Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, the authorship opportunities inherent in the program, and the genuinely fun atmosphere in the office.

The D-B Peds internship is a fantastic experience primarily due to the remarkable leadership of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik. I doubt that any other undergraduate clinical research program in the country offers as much personalized attention and instruction from such experienced, accomplished, and genuinely caring physicians. They empowered me to identify my own areas of interest for research, supported me throughout the design and execution of my studies, and offered keen insights over multiple rounds of abstract and manuscript editing. Their mentorship style strikes the perfect balance between offering appropriate, useful guidance and allowing students enough independence to direct their own research initiatives.

Throughout the summer, I acquired valuable skills via hands-on learning in study design, literature review, survey analysis techniques, and scientific writing. With Dr. Adesman’s guidance, I also authored four abstracts and a manuscript currently under review for various journals and conferences. I am certain that both the clinical experience and the research publications made possible by this internship will be the defining features of my medical school application.

However, the D-B Peds research internship is much more than just a résumé-building summer activity. The other interns and office staff create a warm, collaborative environment that quickly feels like home -- even for someone who is very new to New York City! Physicians in the department invite summer interns to shadow their clinical appointments and participate in medical education lectures, and the office management sponsors many social events for students and staff to meet one another. Gap year interns are eager to get to know younger students, and they provided me with valuable advice about my research projects, medical schools, and life in general. I quickly became friends with everyone else in the internship program, and I still keep in touch with many of them. In my opinion, the social and community aspects of this program are just as enriching as the clinical and technical ones.

The Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics internship is a uniquely rewarding and enjoyable summer research experience that greatly strengthened my own desire to pursue clinical research and the medical profession, and I know that I will use the skills acquired through this program throughout my entire career. I would strongly encourage all undergraduates interested in clinical research and medicine to apply!”

-- D.R., Yale

“My summer at the Cohen Children’s Medical Center was truly the most positive and productive research internship that I have experienced to this date. The ability to complete an
original, intern-driven research project, often resulting in manuscripts, abstracts and platform presentations, over the course of one summer is an opportunity that few other internships offer. I was able to come in with a research interest, develop and disseminate a questionnaire to address this interest, and learn to write an IRB proposal, while getting my first experience drafting and revising two manuscripts.

The biggest strengths of this program in my opinion lie in the incredible dedication and passion of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik in helping interns to achieve their goals for the summer, and in the fantastic collaborative atmosphere between interns. We were highly encouraged to tackle multiple projects at once, co-author manuscripts and bounce ideas off of one another, which made the work environment incredibly thrilling and radically changed the very individualistic outlook on research that I had. I was surprised by how personable, genuine and inquisitive every single intern in the internship program was, which made coming into the office every day a real pleasure! Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik are unparalleled in terms of their commitment and the time they dedicate to every intern, whether it be in guiding you along the writing process or just helping you craft your goals with medicine/research/etc. I cannot recommend this internship enough; it is truly one of a kind!”

-- L.B., Yale

“This past summer, working in the Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics Department was by far the most rewarding and medically relevant experience I’ve had to date. Never having done serious research before, I was unsure of what to expect, but with the help of Dr. Milanaik, Dr. Adesman, and all the other interns, the learning process was quick, smooth, and enjoyable.

There were two key elements that really stood out to me about this program: The special attention given to guide interns toward uniquely individualized projects of interest, and the collaborative environment present amongst interns. While the focus of the department is on developmental disorders, I got the chance to branch out by connecting with Dr. Milanaik on a topic of mutual interest. As I have Celiac Disease, and Dr. Milanaik is also in contact with many individuals on gluten-free diets, I was able to explore the use of these diets by parents and residents in various medical scenarios, creating a project quite relevant to my own life.

Additionally, much of the time in this internship is spent not only on your own project, but tagging along with other interns and learning about or brainstorming a wide variety of other topics. For me, this included Antibiotic Diversion, Probiotic Usage, and Childhood Obesity. The help I received in turn with statistics that I may have been unfamiliar with, survey designs, or just any ideas in general I hadn’t previously thought of were valuable beyond measure. And on top of all that, the ability to shadow Dr. Milanaik in the NICU or have Dr. Adesman connect you with any other field of interest in the hospital makes this internship incredibly well-rounded, educational, and most of all, fun.”

-- T.B., Columbia

“My summer at Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics of Cohen Children’s Medical Center was a truly valuable experience that allowed me to explore various aspects of clinical research and gain exposure to the professional lives of pediatricians and psychologists.
Under the guidance of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, and with the sometimes-rambunctious and always-passionate team of interns, I was able to work on several projects relevant to pediatric health care and the well-being of children.

The research I conducted was completely different from other forms of research that I have been exposed to at school and during previous summers, and the subjects I studied were often directly relevant in the clinical and real-world setting for practicing clinicians, patients, and parents. The freedom to explore our interests, initiate projects, and be directly responsible for all aspects of the research—including developing ideas, obtaining IRB approval, designing surveys, analyzing results, and writing abstracts—made this internship truly unique and valuable.

Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were always kind, supportive, and generous with their time and guidance, even amidst their busy schedules; their mentorship and expertise are unparalleled. The words of wisdom and advice that I received from doctors, matriculating medical students, and peers will be valuable throughout my career.

Perhaps the most meaningful aspect of this internship for me was the chance to befriend and work with a group of exceptionally bright and exceedingly kind individuals from diverse backgrounds. I still keep in touch with them today! I am sure that the skills I gained from this experience will continue to serve me well throughout college, medical school, and beyond.”

-- H.G., Williams College
Spending the summer at Cohen Children’s Medical Center was a fantastic experience for me. The research opportunities that the internship provides are unlike any other I have seen – not only do you get to play an integral role in hands-on clinical research, but you are afforded incredible freedom in designing and creating research projects based on your own personal clinical interests. My internship at Cohen has completely transformed my medical school application and made me a strong research candidate, allowing me to author several abstracts and a manuscript on my own research in just one summer. Throughout the program, my research and clinical skills grew immensely; I strengthened my scientific writing skills by drafting abstracts and manuscripts, improved my clinical skills through many patient interactions during studies and shadowing opportunities, and learned how to pursue a research project from initial IRB submissions to analyzing and interpreting clinical data.

Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are incredibly committed to mentorship and prioritizing clinical and research exposure for interns. They make sure to take note of personal clinical interests of their interns, and often go out of their way to ensure interns leave the summer with a wealth of new clinical experiences. I learned so much about patient care from the internship and found every day brought about new clinical opportunities, whether it be shadowing Dr. Milanaik in the NICU or sitting in on one of Dr. Adesman’s patient visits. In addition, both doctors are excellent role models to help you with anything related to a career in medicine. Some of my favorite memories of the summer are spending time in the office discussing big issues in medicine and hearing the unique perspectives of such accomplished and experienced physicians.

On top of all the amazing research opportunities, the internship is so genuinely fun. All of the interns are incredibly personable and hardworking. We all became very close just by virtue of working together every day, and maintained a great balance of productivity and enjoyment. Every day in the office brought about fun activities, whether it was going to brunch in the city, celebrating birthdays, or taking an afternoon ice cream break. Additionally, many of the gap year interns served as informal mentors for many of the summer interns, and we all still keep in touch as we progress through different points of our medical journeys. I couldn’t ask for a more rewarding and enjoyable way to spend the summer.”

-- S.S., Yale

“The internship program put together by Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik is truly unparalleled. I expected to help out on a project and shadow them a few times, but I was quite impressed as to what I was able to do. The biggest strength of the program is that you are not limited in anyway. You can accomplish however much you want; they will always do their best to support you. In many other programs, interns are not the primary focus. However, here, interns are the focus for the summer. I was not only able to help out on other projects, but I was able to design my own project from scratch -- starting from getting approval from the IRB to recruiting children to take math tests. They guided me with the experimental design, ordered the materials I needed, put me in touch with experts, helped with the writing process, and more. I had time to start another
project as well. Being able to initiate my own projects in my first ever research experience is something that I would not have been able to do in most places.

Having an opportunity to shadow Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik and working in the office gives you a good sense of the daily life of a physician, which is quite a valuable experience. I also had opportunities to visit the NICU and truly recognize the delicacy of life and the beauty of medicine. As I was interested in neurosurgery, Dr. Adesman helped put me in touch with a neurosurgeon who let me shadow a 7 hour craniosynostosis surgery where I was pretty much at the head of the table. By far, that was one of the coolest experiences I have had.

An important aspect of research is also writing, and there were various opportunities to do that as well. I was able to help write my own proposal for the IRB to obtain permission for my project, a review article on what pediatricians should know about fidget spinners, and another article on psychosocial impacts of technology which is still in progress.

Perhaps one of the best aspects of the internship was the community there. The other interns are amazing individuals -- which makes for an incredible experience. The collaboration and teamwork highlight true medicine.”

-- J.S., University of Pennsylvania

“My summer working in Developmental Pediatrics was an incredible experience! Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik cared about involving all of the interns in every part of the research process. They provided guidance to make sure we were all able to get the most of our experiences. Throughout the entire summer I always felt supported. Whatever previous interests and ideas we came in with, they helped us make them into actual projects. And if there was anything we wanted to see or become more involved in, Drs. Adesman and Milanaik provided every opportunity they could, often going out of their way to aid us as much as possible. Not only did the department give me exposure to the true research process and other medical interests, but working everyday with the other interns added so much to the summer! I don’t know if any other internship will ever be able to compare to my time with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik.”

-- C.T., Cornell

“The opportunity to work under the guidance of Drs. Adesman and Milanaik has been one of the most formative experiences of my undergraduate career. As a result of the engaging, welcoming, and collaborative environment of the D-B Peds Unit, I have been able to develop my skills as a scientific investigator in the most hands-on way. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik created a context in which I always felt comfortable to ask questions. I was able to turn my own interests into tangible projects. It is this same atmosphere that allowed me to critically engage with incredibly talented, knowledgeable peers: refining methodologies, asking questions I never thought to ask, and learning

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novel perspectives. My mentors were always willing to set aside time to meet with me as well—even if that meant working well after their patients had left or replying to emails in the middle of the night.

I also had the chance to focus my scientific writing skills. Even in college, I was never offered as much independence in writing abstracts, IRBs, and manuscripts as I was during this summer internship. For this reason, I was truly able to reflect upon my interests, create interesting questions, develop novel methods, design surveys, collect data, work with peers to analyze that data, write about all that I have found, and send those findings to well-read scientific journals.

All in all, this internship has been one of the most valuable of my undergraduate career. Not only did this program show me the truly collaborative nature of research and help me refine my scientific writing skills, but it was also one of the very rare programs where I was certain my mentors truly cared about me. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik wanted to see me succeed, and it was clear that they were willing to do all they could to help me achieve my goals. ”

-- N.M., Cornell

“The Summer Clinical Research Internship in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics at Northwell Health was by far one of the most rewarding experiences. Interning with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik helped me solidify my passion and interest in research. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are incredible role models who always took time out of their busy schedule to answer questions and further develop my research projects. The office environment was collaborative, non-competitive, and yet it also encouraged independent work. This internship was unique in that Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik not only provided a wide range of interesting research ideas of their own, but were also extremely supportive of self-initiated projects. Due to their direction and support, I was fortunate enough to be a first author on a published article, and was also able to participate in projects varying from abnormal gait pattern in infants using baby walkers to fidget spinners.

One of the most distinguishing aspects of this internship is the opportunity to learn first-hand how to develop an idea, prepare IRBs, gather the data, and formulate a research abstract. This in depth understanding of what goes into a manuscript and the importance of collaborating with your peers would not have been possible without the extraordinary trust of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik and the degree of individual responsibility in trusted to each intern.

Words cannot express enough gratitude to both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik for guiding me and pushing me to become a better researcher, student, and overall individual. I genuinely enjoyed my time spent with the other summer interns and still remain in contact with them today. I unequivocally recommend this summer research internship if you are a self-motivated and driven student interested in pediatrics and clinical research. Overall this summer has taught me the skills and lessons that will only serve me well throughout my future career. ”

-- R.S., Washington University in St. Louis
"Being able to spend my summer doing research at Cohen Children’s Hospital under Drs. Adesman and Milanaik was an absolute privilege. There are so many aspects of this internship that I could highlight. The experience was unique, remarkable, and extraordinary for many reasons – the two largest being the passionate mentors with whom you will get to work and the tangible development you will undergo as a researcher under their guidance.

I believe that Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman have created a mentorship and environment unparalleled by other research opportunities. From my personal summer experience, I can sincerely say that I have never had as much fun doing research as I did under these mentors. But beyond the creativity, passion, and enthusiasm they bring, both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik will push you to develop as a researcher. In one summer, I learned how to and successfully submitted my first IRB (followed by numerous others), wrote abstracts, started rough drafts for poster presentations and manuscripts, and received responsibility for multiple novel research projects.

Every day of the summer brought immense learning opportunities, genuine fun in the office, interesting conversations, and freedom to explore many different areas of interest. For these reasons and so many more, I would highly, and without any reservation, recommend this internship."

K.C., Harvard

"The Summer Clinical Research Internship in Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics at Northwell Health was the best internship experience I have ever had. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are wonderful people who take so much time out of their busy schedules to work with interns. They not only enjoy working with their students, but they also want their students to stand out in the medical school applicant pool. Because of them, I am the first author on multiple abstracts, which have been submitted to various medical conferences, and a review paper that will be published this year. I have been doing research throughout my undergraduate education, but never has anyone given me the amount of recognition that Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik have given me. But what is most amazing about this internship is that I was able to do research on topics in pediatrics that were of interest to me, even if they did not necessarily fall into the domain of developmental and behavioral pediatrics. Because I was able to pursue what I was passionate about, I enjoyed coming into the office each and every day. In addition, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are experts at choosing interns who are both hardworking and personable, so I really enjoyed having great company in the office all summer. And because of the wonderful experience I have had, I will be returning to the division in the spring of 2017 as a gap year intern. Thus, I really encourage anyone who is interested in medicine to apply to this internship. It will open more doors than you could ever imagine!"

S.S., Cornell
“I truly enjoyed my time interning with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik at Cohen Children’s Medical Center and can say that it is by far one of the most rewarding experiences I have had to date. I found the environment to be collaborative, yet also very facilitative towards independent work. This internship is incredibly unique in that Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik not only provide a wide range of interesting research ideas of their own, but are also extremely supportive of self-initiated projects. I was fortunate enough to participate in projects varying from toe-walking to food deserts and greatly appreciate the diversity of research to which I was exposed. One of the most distinguishing aspects of this internship is the opportunity to be involved in each step of the research process. Throughout it all, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik were very accessible and provided excellent feedback. I learned how to conduct literature reviews, pitch ideas, prepare IRBs, format surveys, analyze results, and write abstracts and manuscripts. This hands-on learning would not have been possible without the extraordinary trust of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik and the degree of responsibility that we as interns had.

I would highly recommend this internship to anyone considering a career in healthcare, especially those who are self-motivated and passionate. You will have the opportunity to explore your individual interests with the unparalleled support, guidance, and expertise of Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman while also gaining exposure to novel methods and ideas. At all times, I felt incredibly valued and well-utilized. I also genuinely enjoyed my time spent with the other interns and still keep in touch with them today. I am fully confident that the skills I gained this past summer will serve me well throughout my career, and I would absolutely repeat this past summer all over again if I could.”

M.S., Williams College

“There are three features that distinguish this clinical research internship in developmental and behavioral pediatrics. First, you will gain a firsthand experience of the day-to-day professional lives of developmental and behavioral pediatricians in one of the leading children’s hospitals in the US. The work of the physicians in the department is rich and varied, ranging from patient care to clinical research to consult in the NICU, and if you are interested in something you will be able to find someone in the department to teach you about it. Second, you will have close correspondence with Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman on a daily basis, both of whom are experienced and well-respected pediatricians. Third, you will have nearly unlimited freedom to pursue clinical research projects of your choice. Paraphrasing Dr. Adesman: as long as it is (1) worth doing and (2) doable, you will be able to do it.

Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman are very open-minded and supportive of intern-led initiatives, and for this reason the internship is particularly well-suited to students who are self-starting, self-motivated, and enjoy translating clinical and social problems they see into investigative research projects. Most research projects done in the department are operationalized as online questionnaires, and experience in questionnaire design and/or data analysis is helpful but not required. This internship is what you put into it, and your achievements will be commensurate with your ambition.”

W.G., Yale
“The internship in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics under Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik was one of a kind. In this internship, you are in a unique position as a student to conduct research on the forefront of the field, as well as work with patients and shadow physicians. I would strongly recommend this internship for any individual aspiring to be a doctor or psychologist. You get to conduct your own research and apply skills and techniques you’ve learned in class to a clinical setting. Additionally, the environment in the division is exquisite. The physicians and staff are all eager to work with you and make your research projects fun and enjoyable. You are also with a small batch of other intelligent and eager interns. Because the group is small, you get a great deal of attention. You are also bound to make great friends and work together on all your assignments. Even half a year later, I still talk regularly with all the interns from my class because we were friends inside and outside the division. Overall, this summer was excellent, and I would not hesitate to do it again.”

D.S., Yale

“The summer research internship was an incredibly rewarding experience. My experience at North Shore LIJ solidified my decision to pursue a career in medicine. I had the opportunity to shadow doctors in the office, visit the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, as well as conduct clinical research. I was also excited to first author an article, which was published in January.

Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are extremely supportive mentors. Their enthusiasm for medicine was infectious and I appreciated their interest in teaching the interns about medicine and clinical research. In addition, the office environment was extremely collaborative. I worked on projects with other summer interns as well as residents and fellows.

Through my summer experience, I learned what it is like to be a physician. I highly recommend this internship to anyone who is interested in medicine and clinical research!”

C.J., Harvard

"Interning at Cohen Children's Medical Center this past summer was one of the most valuable summer experiences I have had thus far in my academic career. This was so different from any other typical internship because, along with being heavily involved in pediatrics research, we all received the opportunity to shadow in the NICU, PICU, and within the developmental and behavioral pediatrics division. While I expected to conduct a research project, I was not anticipating the privilege to work on two primary studies, a secondary data analysis, and a manuscript review article already accepted for publication. I definitely learned a lot about how to write and properly format research articles geared for publication, and feel more comfortable in my writing abilities."
If you receive the pleasure of working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, you will find that there is plenty of meaningful work to do, and that they both are fantastic mentors. Not only did I feel completely guided throughout the research process (from formulating a research question to completing the IRB protocol), I also knew that Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik would meet with us if we ever had any questions or were looking for more opportunities to get involved within the clinic or in research. They treat you as an equal and put a lot of time and effort into the interns’ work. I could not ask for a more fulfilling, clinically meaningful research summer experience.”

A.H., Yale (Master’s program)

“Working at Cohen Children’s with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik this past summer was a unique and incredibly valuable experience. We were given full freedom and support to pursue whatever topic we were interested in within the scope of behavioral pediatrics. I think it is very rare to find an internship such as this one, where our ideas were treated with genuine interest and taken seriously. Through this internship, I learned how to conduct meaningful research on my own, experiencing every step first hand—from brainstorming, to getting IRB approval, to making my own surveys and distributing them. In the short amount of time that I was there, I came out with so many worthwhile skills that will definitely help me in the future, such as writing up a survey or writing a manuscript. It was a privilege being able to work on my own interests here and receiving the help that I did from both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik. It’s clear that they are genuinely devoted to seeing us succeed and accomplish the goals we set for ourselves, despite the fact that they had their plates full with their own manuscripts and patients. One of the biggest and undeniable perks of this internship is the opportunity to get published. The fact that the research we do and our writing will be actually published is incredible and definitely makes us stand out. I don’t think there are any other internships that make the promise of having your work published. While it may seem like a lot of work, we were definitely guided by all of the other doctors we were working with, so I never felt lost.

Other than what we learn from this internship, it was also a fulfilling experience because of the people you meet and become close to. The other interns and I became a very close-knit group immediately and we still keep in touch. The other doctors and nurses in the office are also very welcoming of us and made us feel included, even if we were only going to be there for a short amount of time. One of my favorite parts of this internship was getting the chance to shadow Dr. Milanaik. We would follow her around in the NICU and getting the chance to see patients like that is definitely preparing me for med school and made me even more excited to become a doctor. I had a great time during this internship and am so grateful for choosing to pursue it. I think many of its benefits are self-explanatory.”

T.A., Harvard
“Working with Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik this summer in the division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was a highly rewarding experience. The type of research being done in this office was totally different from anything I had done before, and it really exercised my reading, writing, and critical analysis skills. Both doctors are extremely encouraging of using the internship to pursue research topics of interest to the student, and much of their time is dedicated to helping the interns with their projects. The internship also provides wonderful opportunities for shadowing. Visiting the NICU with Dr. Milanaik was a very powerful experience for me, and has sparked a huge personal interest in neonatal health care. This internship is an incredible way to spend a summer, and I would highly recommend it to anyone interested in pursuing medicine or a health-related profession!”

C.C., Yale
Comments from Summer Research Interns – Summer, 2014
(solicited, but unedited)

"The internship in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics has been the most rewarding academic experience of my life thus far. Both Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are extremely passionate about fostering the growth and development of their interns, and therefore worked closely with me to find and develop projects tailored to my specific interests. The supportive environment of the internship pushed me to challenge myself in many areas, including scholastic-level writing and clinically-oriented research. The skills I’ve developed during this internship are 100% invaluable, and I am so grateful that I was awarded this opportunity.”

J.B., Princeton University

"This internship was, by far, the most productive and rewarding summer experience I've ever had. Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are incredible mentors -- they offered lots of guidance and support while also giving us the flexibility to pursue specific research topics that interested us. I worked on a review article and an original research study, both of which allowed me to hone my scientific writing skills and explore topics that I wanted to learn more about. Another wonderful aspect of this program is that it strikes a perfect balance between research and clinical exposure; shadowing Dr. Adesman and his colleagues gave me insight into the field of developmental-behavioral pediatrics and solidified my desire to become a physician. Overall, I couldn’t have asked for a better experience!"

B.K., Yale University

“The summer internship in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was an extraordinary experience. Drs. Adesman and Milanaik were extremely supportive and worked so hard to make sure their research interns were able to explore what interested them most. They helped me figure out topics that excited me and gave me an incredible array of resources to discover more about them. Under their guidance, I became so much more confident in not only my research skills, but also my writing and critical thinking. The many shadowing opportunities allowed me to explore pediatric medicine and discover my interest in neonatology.”

L.F., Cornell University

“My summer research experience in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was extremely rewarding and intellectually stimulating. As an undergraduate
student, the opportunity to design and conduct independent research projects was a unique one and speaks to the faith and confidence Drs. Adesman and Milanaik have in the summer interns. While being the main researcher on an independent project was admittedly a bit daunting at first, Drs. Adesman and Milanaik are great at working with interns through the entire process and the end result is a research experience that is tough to find elsewhere. The flexibility to explore my own interests with my research also led me to projects that excited my passions. Whether one is interested in a clinical study, data analysis, literature reviews, surveys, policy-based research, or really any other research method in between, Drs. Adesman and Milanaik will work with you to come up with a project to match these interests. With their assistance, having the opportunity to submit multiple abstracts to a national conference and draft a manuscript for publication is an extraordinary one for research interns.

What really distinguishes this internship, however, is the opportunity to work with Drs. Adesman and Milanaik. They are both great role models and mentors for anyone interested in medicine. They are also genuinely invested in the internship program and make sure to optimize each intern’s experience through different presentations and shadowing experiences, both in their division and throughout the hospital. For all these reasons and more, I would highly recommend this internship.”

M.H., Princeton University

“This far down in the comments, you should already be convinced that this internship is a meaningful, rewarding, incredible, exciting, rewarding, invaluable, rewarding, rewarding, experience.

In addition to being all of the above, this internship, in the hands of Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik, goes above and beyond its promise to give interns the experience and mentorship they need to take ownership of significant research questions.

You will learn how to conduct a comprehensive literature search, you will write and submit to the IRB, you will conduct studies and collect data, and in the end you will have to figure out what your results mean. Along the way, you’ll be given ample guidance and candid feedback to keep you on track, and you will never leave a conversation not knowing what to do next.

Above all, my favorite parts of the internship were my conversations with Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik, and the other interns. It’s amazing how even the slightest inkling of a research question could develop into a full-fledged project in an environment like this. Interns also have the incredible opportunity to submit abstracts to the pediatric annual meeting and/or to incorporate their findings in submissions for publication.

Finally, as testament to how massively productive, fun, and engaging my summer internship was, I’m happy to report that I’ll be joining the division for a year as a full-time research assistant before entering medical school.”

T.P., Yale University
Comments from Summer Research Interns – Summer, 2013
(solicited, but unedited)

“I can quite honestly reflect that my time in the Division of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics (DBPeds) was one of the most rewarding summers of my life. Through the guidance of Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman, I was able to rapidly build my skills as a researcher, from drafting questionnaires to creating testable hypotheses to writing project proposals. The environment is very team-oriented, and while I was afforded the flexibility to develop my own individual research, the DBPeds staff and my fellow interns were always close at hand, ready with constructive criticism, support, and new ideas.

Both Dr. Milanaik and Dr. Adesman are very invested in their interns and will do whatever it takes to ensure you flourish as a researcher. I worked most closely with Dr. Milanaik, who is one of the most fun and vivacious physicians I have ever met. She is full of great ideas and dedicated to making sure you get the most out of your internship. She always went out of her way to afford myself and the other interns with special opportunities like going on rounds with residents in the hospital and scheduling tours for us in the PICU. Dr. Adesman is also a wonderful mentor to have. Although he is an expert in his field, he always makes sure to take time out of his busy schedule to check in with you, help you with a project, or point you toward more compelling opportunities.

Aside from the rich clinical experience you gain, you are also able to form close bonds with everyone you work with. Each staff member is very welcoming and interested in not only getting to know you but also in giving you advice about anything. In addition, you will work alongside other college students who may share many of your interests! If you are interested in children, medicine, research, or all three, this is definitely one of the best ways you could possibly spend your summer!”

O.O., Princeton University

“This internship was an invaluable experience to me for many reasons. On a personal level, it strengthened my interest in medicine by exposing me to the realities of the field in the NICU, PICU, and DB Peds clinic. Furthermore, the research was exciting because I had the freedom to study any aspect of clinical psych in DB Peds that interested me.

When it came time to apply to medical school, I drew heavily on my shadowing experiences to explain my motivations to go into medicine. Moreover, being able to say I was first author of an abstract selected as a platform presentation at a preeminent pediatric conference really strengthened my application.

Lastly, Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik are incredibly intelligent, well-respected, and caring physicians and mentors. Their guidance in the clinic and with my research, as well as the opportunity to experience New York City, made my summer something special. I highly recommend this internship to any student interested in research and medicine.”

K.S., Northwestern University
“The clinical research internship has given me an opportunity to work alongside mentors who truly have a passion for what they do. Their guidance and interest towards my learning have enabled me to take part in so much more outside of my research project, such as being able to attend grand rounds and visiting the NICU unit. I also enjoyed getting to know the medical residents, and was able to obtain useful advice regarding medical school and the medical profession. Overall, this has been a wonderful and rewarding experience, and I highly recommend this internship to anyone who is considering a career in medicine.”

J.L., Carnegie Mellon University
"The summer internship was definitely my most meaningful research experience to date. I had the chance to be the first author on a published paper, where I improved my writing skills as well as learned to critically evaluate medical journal articles. I also appreciated the many shadowing opportunities I was given throughout the course of the summer, which helped me to get a better understanding of what exactly behavior and developmental pediatrics entails."

A.B., University of Pennsylvania

“Working at Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics was an incredible experience. I had the chance to participate in interesting research and shadow doctors and hospital rounds, all while learning enormously about the world of developmental pediatrics and about research in general. There are a lot of new and exciting things happening in this world, and I had a great summer in the midst of it!”

S.M., Princeton University

“The summer internship was an incredibly rewarding experience for me. From the opportunity to do research alongside experts in the field, to the inviting weekly lectures given by attendings and residents eager to teach, to the balance of warmth and professionalism in the office, I couldn’t have asked for more from this internship.”

K.G., Bryn Mawr College; Columbia University (Post-Bacc.)

"The summer internship was an intellectually exciting experience that solidified and defined my interest in medicine. The hands-on combination of clinical research and physician shadowing gave me a great sense of what it's like to pursue a career in medicine. The individualized guidance I received as a research intern allowed me to focus on my personal interests and to better understand clinical research in the medical setting."

A.T., Columbia University
“The summer internship exceeded my expectations in every possible way. There is an incredible amount of flexibility in terms of the specific research each intern decides to conduct. The internship rewards those who are passionate about Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics and are committed to putting in 100% every day. Hard-working interns can finish the summer with a number of abstracts to submit to annual meetings and with a manuscript to submit to the most prestigious pediatrics journal (as first author!). Dr. Adesman is the best mentor I have ever had and I assure you that he will go out of his way to ensure that you get the most out of the internship. While the internship offers interns the independence undergraduates want and deserve, Dr. Adesman is always available to offer advice and support.

Not only are you able to conduct meaningful clinical research, but you are also awarded the opportunity to shadow Dr. Adesman and other doctors in the field. When I shadowed Dr. Adesman, he went out of his way to review every patient file with me before we entered the patient's room. Depending on your interests, Dr. Adesman is also more than willing to reach out to doctors in other fields, as he has many connections and is very well respected by all. I shadowed a pediatric endocrinologist and it was one of the most rewarding shadowing experiences I have had.

Furthermore, you will make some wonderful friends, as you get to spend the summer with a number of other students who are similarly driven and passionate about the field.

If you are a confident writer looking for an internship in which you can work with one of the experts in the field to conduct cutting edge research on a related topic of your choice, you should absolutely apply. You will get more out of one summer than other undergraduates or graduates get in two years.”

A.B., Princeton University

"The summer internship was an incredible learning experience. I got a chance to really initiate clinically-relevant research projects and follow through with multiple projects. As a research intern, you are involved in each step of the process, from conducting the background research, to writing and submitting IRB protocols, as well as recruiting subjects. This holistic experience makes this program unique, since it can be difficult to gain experience with all of these aspects of clinical research at once in other programs. We were even able to get an abstract from one of these projects accepted in the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research! Dr. Adesman and Dr. Milanaik also give students the opportunity to shadow them in the clinic, which really gave me an insight into the practice of developmental and behavioral pediatrics. Dr. Adesman, Dr. Milanaik, as well as the residents and fellows in the department, were incredibly supportive mentors and really encourage driven students to wholeheartedly pursue clinical research. I would recommend this program to any pre-med who is interested in pursuing research."

R.R., University of Pennsylvania
Comments from Summer Research Interns – Summer, 2011
(solicited, but unedited)

“My summer spent in the Division of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics was rewarding in several different ways. I had the opportunity to participate in research on exciting and important topics, such as preschool ADHD and teacher bias in the classroom. I was even able to continue some of this research for my senior thesis at Princeton University.

In addition to conducting research, I also gained exposure to a medical field that I knew very little about, developmental and behavioral pediatrics. As a psychology major and pre-medical student, this position tied together my interests perfectly. In fact, because of my rich experiences two summers ago, I am now considering entering this field for my career.

In addition to the numerous opportunities offered through the program, Dr. Adesman is a wonderful mentor. He is a brilliant physician, who generates wonderful research hypotheses. Unlike many other mentors, his primary goal is to see his interns succeed. He has access to many different resources, such as several nation-wide databases, that are available to use when attempting to answer research questions. He provided guidance, not only with my research, but also on my future career and my medical school prospects.

All in all, my summer spent as a research intern in D-B Peds was like none other. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in the field.”

A.K., Princeton University
Comments from Summer Research Interns – Summer, 2010
(solicited, but unedited)

“Working with Dr. Adesman as an undergraduate gave me valuable research and writing experience that prepared me for a clinical psychology doctoral program. The opportunities to co-author academic papers not only strengthened my CV and applications, but also significantly improved these practical skills that have been critical in graduate school. I also gained clinical experience through shadowing him while he saw patients, which further prepared me for working in a clinical setting.”

A.C., Washington University in St. Louis
2020 - 2021 “Gap Year” Clinical Research Assistant Position in the Division of General Pediatrics

**Description:** A 12-24 month paid research internship program is offered by Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York – part of Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System). The mission of the Division of General Pediatrics is to enhance the lives of children and families locally and nationally through clinical care, teaching, research and community service. As such, our work falls into multiple domains: clinical medicine, clinical research, quality improvement, medical education, health policy, and administration.

This Clinical Research Internship will offer 1-2 accomplished students the opportunity to work closely with faculty mentors within the Division of General Pediatrics on research projects on a wide variety of topics relevant to general pediatrics, ranging from pediatric health outcomes research to quality improvement to health services and health policy research. Examples of ongoing projects in the Division of General Pediatrics include:

- Impact of innovations in the delivery of care for children with asthma;
- Impact of Medicaid care coordination programs on children with complex medical and psychosocial needs;
- Coordination of NYS-wide organizations working to improve children’s environmental health;
- Outcomes of adolescents with complex health needs transitioning to adult care;
- Interventions to improve future planning for families of those with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

**Responsibilities:**
Research assistants will be integral members of our team in the Division of General Pediatrics, participating in all components of our projects. Research Assistants (RA’s) will assist faculty with ongoing research projects and/or work collaboratively with one or more mentors in designing new projects of mutual interest. With the guidance of faculty, research assistants will learn to perform chart reviews, conduct in-depth interviews, administer in-person and online surveys, run focus groups, analyze and code transcripts, and analyze primary and secondary data.

Additional responsibilities include:
- Provide administrative support to the team, including scheduling and preparing for meetings, trainings, and presentations.
- Work with local organizations to provide affordable and accessible community resources for patients and their families.
- Complete frequent site evaluations to monitor progress and outcome measures.
- Draft and edit research study manuscripts. The research assistant will also write for additional pediatric/health policy/health advocacy sites, articles, or presentations as they arise, such as Grand Rounds, health policy blogs, pediatric online resources, and more.
• Take the lead in managing all facets of clinical studies, including but not limited to: recruitment and enrollment of patients, communication with study sponsors, and leadership at sponsor visits, management of regulatory documents, and keeping up-to-date on all IRB (Institutional Review Board) documents and communication.

• Manage various administrative, clinical, and project responsibilities as they arise. The research assistant will be expected to learn how to fulfill them with the initial guidance and support of Dr. Jan, Caren Steinway, or current research coordinators and assistants. The research assistant will be able to contribute to processes and projects from start to finish; s/he will develop the logistical and medical knowledge required at all phases of projects and be able to recognize the value s/he added to the final product.

The Division has internal funding for clinical research. RA’s are not expected to write grants, and their research including endeavors and activities are not dependent on extramural grants.

This clinical research internship is open to students who excelled while pursuing their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. Although the ideal candidate is a student who aspires to attend medical school in the near future, has a strong academic record and writing skills, research experience, knowledge of statistics, and a demonstrated interest in public health, vulnerable pediatric populations, and/or health policy, we welcome applications from any students who have excelled in any area of study.

There will be an opportunity to continue the internship for an additional 12 months.

**Research Abstracts**: RA’s will be co-investigators on any research abstracts submitted to national research meetings.

**Research Publications**: With guidance from faculty mentors, RA’s will be responsible for drafting and revising research manuscripts for submission to peer reviewed pediatric journals. RA’s will generally be identified as either the first or second author of any paper submitted for publication. The Division consistently submits annual presentations to the national meetings of the American Public Health Association and Pediatric Academic Societies. The Division has also presented at the American Academy of Pediatrics, Academy Health, Annual Health Care Transition Research Consortium Research Symposium, and the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

**Review Article**: There may be an opportunity for RA’s to be first or second author on a review article for a peer-reviewed medical journal.

**Program Dates**: Start and completion dates for the Gap Year internship are somewhat flexible. Priority will be given to applicants prepared to make at least a full-time 12 month commitment or longer, though alternate schedule arrangements will be considered. With advance notice, research interns may take as many days off (without pay) as needed during their internship to visit medical schools for interviews.
Other Activities/ Expectations/Opportunities: The primary focus of the internship is clinical research and writing. It is expected that this will comprise 90% of one’s time. RA’s will have the opportunity to attend clinical lectures of interest available through the Children’s Hospital. There will also be opportunities for occasional shadowing of clinicians in our sub-specialty area and other pediatric sub-specialties as well. RA’s may occasionally be asked to assist with other academic or administrative tasks.

Stipend: This is a paid internship; interns will be paid $15.50 per hour for days worked.

To Apply: You must submit a completed application (PDF attached), a résumé, and an unofficial transcript. All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line "Gap Year Research Internship" to Caren Steinway, csteinway@northwell.edu.

Application Process & Deadline: There is a rolling submission deadline. However, priority will be given to candidates who submit all materials by Wednesday, March 4, 2020. The most promising candidates will be invited to interview by phone, and notification of decisions will be made soon thereafter.

Past Interns: The Gap Year Internship program at Cohen Children’s Medical Center was established in 2014. Gap Year RA’s are typically accepted to multiple medical schools. Although these RA’s are typically very strong applicants even prior to participating in these internship programs, the Gap Year internship program typically adds multiple abstracts and/or publications to each RA’s list of accomplishments. Moreover, RA’s often find it very helpful to discuss one or more of their different Gap Year research projects when interviewed by medical schools.

Testimonials:

“My time as a Gap Year Intern on Dr. Jan’s team has been incredibly valuable and rewarding for me both professionally and personally, and has helped me further develop my interests in healthcare. I have had opportunities to contribute and take leadership roles in a number of different research projects, ranging from smaller quality improvement projects in the clinic, to large, multi-year IRB approved research studies, all of which focus on improving the health of complex and vulnerable pediatric populations. I have been able to write and publish work about the research I’ve done and further develop my interests in pursuing population health research and working with underserved communities in the future. Further, through my position here I have had the opportunity for personal learning experiences including clinical shadowing, resident grand rounds presentations, and special speakers and events at Northwell. Most importantly, the research team here is an amazing and supportive group of people who I look forward to spending time with each day and who have become incredible mentors to me. Their support for my medical school application process was invaluable this year and has helped set me up for success as I continue on to med school next year!” -Jane

“I have had a wonderful experience this past year as part of the general pediatrics research team. It has been an eye opening experience having the opportunity to speak with people from all walks of life about their individual experiences with the health care system. I feel like I am contributing to projects with the potential to improve the lives of patients and their families while concurrently..."
solidifying my medical school application. I cannot think of a better opportunity for students looking to be productive in the medical field prior to beginning their own medical careers.” - Matt

“I have been at this position for little less than a year and a half. I have grown and learned so much during my time here. As research assistants, we are given the freedom to explore projects and areas that are of interest to us, which is something that is rare to find. I am able to learn from my mistakes while also knowing that I have many people to turn to when I need help. The populations that we work with are mostly children who have chronic conditions and need extra supports for their care. The projects that I work on involve conducting quality improvement surveys to receive feedback on an existing NYS waiver program, collecting data and research on environmental health to then distribute to concerned parents through social media channels, and conducting focus groups in order to develop a long-term care planning intervention tool in the form of a website. My time here has deepened my appreciation for the work that we conduct as researchers in pediatrics. The outcomes of our projects are priceless to the families that we help. Not only that, but I have also developed bonds with my co-workers, feeling as though I have a second family and support system when I come to work. This position and my coworkers have given me the tools to be successful and compassionate in this field.” - Vanessa

For Further Information: The research internship in General Pediatrics is coordinated by Caren Steinway, Administrative Director of Research, Division of General Pediatrics. Questions regarding the Gap Year internship or the application process may be directed to her directly (csteinway@northwell.edu).
2020 - 2021 Division of Medical Genetics & Human Genomics
Internship Position

**About Us:** Genetic diseases affect patients of all ages and ethnicities, impacting virtually all medical specialties. As a multidisciplinary program, the Division of Medical Genetics and Human Genomics at Northwell Health touches the lives of prenatal, pediatric, and adult patients and their families, and cares for a variety of conditions and disorders.

**Internship Position:** Through the Cohen Children’s Medical Center gap year program, the Division of Medical Genetics and Human Genomics is offering a 9-12 month paid internship to 1 accomplished student. The Intern will gain operational and clinical experience in the ambulatory setting, and will also be an integral part of genetics and genomics research focused on newborn screening and biochemical genetics.

Using our widespread Cohen Children’s Medical Center network, Northwell Health has become a primary site for New York state newborn screening pilot studies into conditions such as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and a number of Lysosomal Storage Disorders. The discoveries made will not only lead to better pediatric treatments, but will be applied to patients across our entire system and beyond.

**Responsibilities:** The Intern will work closely with and under the guidance of the Genetics team.

1. **Performs support activities to facilitate patient care.**
   - Obtains relevant patient medical records.
   - Maintains genetics database for clinical and research purposes.
   - Assists genetic counseling team with obtaining pedigree data and medical history.
   - Provides linkage between patients/family members and support programs/resources.
   - Performs follow-up activities to ensure indicated tests are performed in a timely manner and results are obtained.
   - Ensures results are communicated to referring physician.
   - Drafts related documentation for review and distribution.

2. **Participates in and contributes to clinical and translational genetics research.**

This internship position is open to recent graduates that have earned their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. The ideal candidate is a recent graduate who aspires to obtain a professional degree in the health field (e.g., MS in Genetic Counseling, MD, DO, MPH, etc.) in the near future, has a strong undergraduate academic record, an interest in medical genetics, prior experience in research and/or clinical settings, and is able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and families of diverse cultural backgrounds.
Program Dates: Start and completion dates for the internship are somewhat flexible. Priority will be given to applicants prepared to make at least a 9 month commitment or longer, though alternate schedule arrangements will be considered. Typical weekly work hours average ~22.5. With advance notice, the Intern may request to take days off (without pay) as needed to visit professional schools for interviews.

Other Activities/ Expectations/ Opportunities: The primary focus of the internship is providing support to the clinical and research teams. The Intern will have the opportunity to attend case conferences, lectures, and other educational events of interest. There will also be opportunities for occasional shadowing of clinicians, and the Intern may be asked to assist with other academic, research, and administrative tasks.

Stipend: This is a paid internship; interns will be paid $16.50 per hour for days worked.

To Apply: You must submit a completed application, résumé, and an unofficial transcript.

All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line format “Genetics & Genomics Internship – Lastname Firstname” to Dr. David Tegay, at dtegay@northwellhealth.edu.

Application Process & Deadline: There is a rolling submission deadline. However, priority will be given to candidates who submit all materials by Wednesday, March 4, 2020. The most promising candidates will be invited to interview online, and notification of decisions will be made soon thereafter.

Past Interns: The Internship program at Cohen Children’s Medical Center was established in 2014. All of the pre-medical CCMC Interns were accepted to multiple medical schools. Although these are typically very strong applicants even prior to participating in our internship program, the Interns often find it very helpful to discuss one or more of their different projects when interviewing.

For Further Information: The Medical Genetics internship is coordinated by Dr. David Tegay, Chief of the Division of Medical Genetics and Human Genomics. Questions regarding the internship or the application process may be directed to Dr. Tegay at dtegay@northwellhealth.edu.
“Gap Year” Clinical Research Assistant Position in Pediatric Emergency Medicine

Description: A 1 - 2 year paid research internship program in Pediatric Emergency Medicine is offered by Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York – part of Northwell Health.

Responsibilities:
Research assistants will be integral members of our team in the Division of Emergency Medicine, participating in all components of our projects. Research Assistants (RA’s) will assist faculty with ongoing research projects and/or work collaboratively with one or more mentors in designing new projects of mutual interest. With the guidance of faculty, research assistants will learn to perform chart reviews, conduct in-depth interviews, administer in-person and online surveys, run focus groups, analyze and code transcripts, and analyze primary and secondary data.

Additional responsibilities include:

• Provide administrative support to the team, including scheduling and preparing for meetings, trainings, and presentations.
• Draft and edit research study manuscripts. The research assistant will also write for additional pediatric/ health policy/ health advocacy sites, articles, or presentations as they arise, such as Grand Rounds, health policy blogs, pediatric online resources, and more.
• Take the lead in managing all facets of clinical studies, including but not limited to: recruitment and enrollment of patients, communication with study sponsors, and leadership at sponsor visits, management of regulatory documents, and keeping up-to-date on all IRB (Institutional Review Board) documents and communication.
• Assist in quality and performance improvement projects under the guidance of Dr. Kimberly Giusto.
• Manage various administrative, clinical, and project responsibilities as they arise. The research assistant will be expected to learn how to fulfill them with the initial guidance and support of Drs. Avarello, Rocker and Krief, or current research coordinators and assistants. The research assistant will be able to contribute to processes and projects from start to finish; s/he will develop the logistical and medical knowledge required at all phases of projects and be able to recognize the value s/he added to the final product.
• Assist in preparing for the divisions yearly regional Pediatric Emergency Medicine conference.

The Division has internal funding for clinical research. RA’s are not expected to write grants, and their research including endeavors and activities are not dependent on extramural grants.

This clinical research internship is open to students who excelled while pursuing their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. Although the ideal candidate is a student who aspires to attend medical school in the near future, has a strong academic record and writing skills, research experience, knowledge of statistics, and a demonstrated interest in public health, vulnerable pediatric populations, and/or health policy, we welcome applications from any students who have excelled in any area of study.
There will be an opportunity for first-year interns to continue their internship for an additional 12 months.

The Gap Year Internship program at Cohen Children’s Medical Center was established in 2014. Gap Year RA’s are typically accepted to multiple medical schools. Although these RA’s are typically very strong applicants even prior to participating in these internship programs, the Gap Year internship program typically adds multiple abstracts and/or publications to each RA’s list of accomplishments. Moreover, RA’s often find it very helpful to discuss one or more of their different Gap Year research projects when interviewed by medical schools.

**Research Abstracts:** RA’s will be co-investigators on any research abstracts submitted to national research meetings.

**Research Publications:** With guidance from faculty mentors, RA’s will be responsible for drafting and revising research manuscripts for submission to peer reviewed pediatric journals. RA’s will generally be identified as either the first or second author of any paper submitted for publication. The Division consistently submits annual presentations to the national meetings of the American Public Health Association and Pediatric Academic Societies. The Division has also presented at national meetings held by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Society of Academic Emergency Medicine, the Pediatric Academic Society and various other national, regional and local platforms.

**Review Article:** There may be an opportunity for RA’s to be first or second author on a review article for a peer-reviewed medical journal.

**Program Dates:** Start and completion dates for the Gap Year internship are somewhat flexible. Priority will be given to applicants prepared to make at least a full-time 9 month commitment or longer, though alternate schedule arrangements will be considered. With advance notice, research interns may take as many days off (without pay) as needed during their internship to visit medical schools for interviews.

**Other Activities/ Expectations/Opportunities:** The primary focus of the internship is clinical research and writing. It is expected that this will comprise 90% of one’s time. RA’s will have the opportunity to attend clinical lectures of interest available through the Children’s Hospital. There will also be opportunities for occasional shadowing of clinicians in our sub-specialty area and other pediatric sub-specialties as well. RA’s may occasionally be asked to assist with other academic or administrative tasks.

**Stipend:** This is a paid internship with an hourly wage (TBD) for days worked.
**To Apply:** You must submit a completed application (PDF attached), a résumé, and an unofficial transcript. All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line "Gap Year Research Internship" to Maire Amlicke, Senior Research Associate (mamlicke@northwell.edu).

**Application Process & Deadline:**

There is a rolling submission deadline. However, priority will be given to candidates who submit all materials by Wednesday, March 4, 2020. The most promising candidates will be invited to interview by phone, Skype or in person and notification of decisions will be made soon thereafter.

**For Further Information:** The research internship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine is coordinated by Dr. Josh Rocker, Chief of Pediatric Emergency Medicine. Information regarding the Gap Year internship or the application process may be directed to Maire Amlicke, Senior Research Associate (mamlicke@northwell.edu).
2020 Gap Year Clinical Research Internship In Pediatric Nephrology

**Description:** A 12 month program in clinical research related to pediatric nephrology in children and adolescents is offered by Cohen Children’s Medical Center of New York– part of Northwell Health (formerly North Shore-LIJ Health System).

The Gap Year Internship offers 1-2 accomplished students the opportunity to work closely with a faculty mentor on one or more research projects related to pediatric nephrology. Students will assist the faculty member in an ongoing research project and/or work collaboratively with the mentor in designing a new project of mutual interest. Most projects include retrospective chart reviews, but there will also be projects that will involve direct contact with patients. The student is expected to take ownership of a research project and write a manuscript by the end of the year.

While participating in the program, interns will have the opportunity to shadow in our clinics and on rounds. Research interns will also be encouraged to attend other lectures of interest available through the Division of Pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital.

The internship open to students who excelled while pursuing their Bachelor’s degree from any U.S. college or university. The ideal candidate is a student with a strong academic record and aspires to attend a doctoral program in medicine.

This program is flexible in the amount of hours per week but at minimum we ask for at least two half days per week commitment. Gap year positions are unpaid.

**Research Abstracts/Publications:** It is anticipated that students will be included as co-investigators on one or more research abstracts submitted to national research meetings. Students who are able to successfully write a manuscript for journal submission of their research findings will be identified as the first or second author of any paper submitted for publication. A list of research abstracts accepted for presentation at national meetings is attached.

**Other Activities/ Expectations/Opportunities:** Although the primary focus of the internship is clinical research and writing, and it is expected that this will comprise 70-75% of one’s time, interns often welcome the opportunity to engage in other academic or clinical activities. A breakdown of these educational, clinical, and administrative support functions follows:

► Lectures:
  - Attend noon conference lectures on general pediatrics topics
  - Pediatric Nephrology lectures 2-3 per week

► Clinical Observation:
  - Shadow pediatric nephrologists in the out-patient clinic and attend in-patient rounds

► Miscellaneous:
  - Assist with special projects and general office support

**Stipend:** This is an unpaid internship.
To Apply: You must submit a completed application (PDF attached), a resume, a writing sample, and an unofficial transcript. All materials should be sent electronically using the subject line "Summer Research Internship Application" to Dr. Christine Sethna (csethna@northwell.edu) and Kisha Laurent (klaurent@northwell.edu).

Application Process & Deadline: The submittal deadline is March 4, 2020; all materials must be received by that date. It is anticipated that notification of decisions will be made by late March.

For Further Information: The research internship is coordinated by Kisha Laurent (klaurent@northwell.edu). Questions regarding the internship or its application should be directed to Dr. Sethna (csethna@northwell.edu).

Publications

- Heterogeneity Index and Echogenicity in Hypertension. Journal of the American Society of Hypertension. 2018 Dec: 12(12) e77-e83
Comments from Gap Year Research Interns

“As an intern for Pediatric Nephrology, I was able to experience the medical field through a scientific research lens. I interacted with patients, and took initiative in maintaining ongoing studies within nephrology. I was able to shadow the doctors, and learn proper techniques of clinical practice. The most rewarding part of the internship was getting to know patients first hand, and becoming a part of their health journey.

Dr. Sethna is an extremely hands on and dedicated physician that truly pushes interns to achieve the best they can. Personally, she has taught me what it means to be a physician, and the sacrifices that come with the profession. Under her guidance, I gained skills and knowledge beyond those that I have acquired in any classroom. Working as an intern in Pediatric Nephrology was an incredibly educating and humbling experience; it allowed me to complete my Undergraduate studies, and gave me a platform to begin a career in the medical field.”

O.B., Hofstra University, Class of 2020
Research Intern, 2019-2020

“Working with the Pediatric Nephrology Department, both over the summer and during my gap year, has afforded me the invaluable opportunity to hone my research skills. By contributing to a multitude of studies, I was able to expand the breadth of my experience to take with me to medical school this fall. I was given the demanding role to take the lead on clinical trials, which provided me with crucial hands-on practice working with patients and their families, taking vital signs, and managing treatment plans under the direct supervision of Dr. Sethna.

My passion for pediatrics and my confidence to pursue research was most definitely strengthened and solidified by this experience. Personally, Dr. Sethna became an instrumental source of guidance throughout my journey as a pre-medical student, and she will continue to be a role model to me.”

L.G., Cornell University, Class of 2019
Research Intern, Gap Year 2019-2020