



## ds medpress

### A NEWSLETTER FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

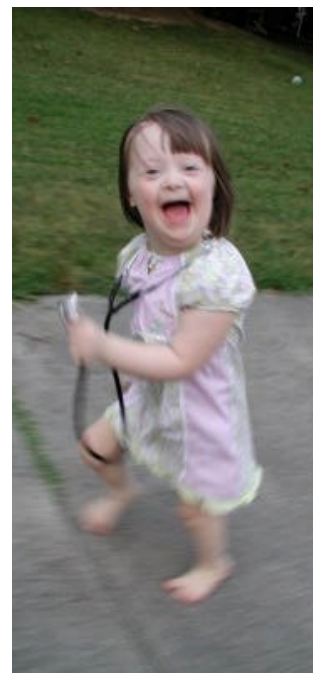
The purpose of ds medpress is to share the latest medical information regarding individuals with Down syndrome, present the variety of supports we can offer families and highlight the many wonderful professionals in the Greater Cincinnati area who are doing a great job of supporting our families. Please share this e-newsletter with others who may be interested. To receive a hard copy, please contact our offices.

### LOCAL PARENTS GRATEFUL FOR PEDIATRICIAN'S COMFORT

When Dana and Chris Clendening's daughter was born in June 2009, they vividly remember the comforting words offered by their pediatrician, **Dr. Kathleen Lamping-Arar, Pediatricians of Hyde Park.**



*"Dr. Lamping-Arar was the most comforting of the doctors we saw in the those early days after Ella was born. She told us how beautiful our baby was and encouraged us to get started with early intervention. She assured me that nothing I had done in my pregnancy caused Ella to have Down syndrome. Her attitude was very positive, helpful and reassuring."*



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### SPEAKER'S BUREAU

The DSAGC is happy to provide information sessions for your staff provided by parent volunteers and staff. We can adjust the length of these sessions to fit your needs. Help your staff learn the preferred ways to support new families.

Contact :  
sally@dsagc.com

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## **DID YOU KNOW?**

**The DSAGC provides a free magazine for new families to every hospital in Greater Cincinnati? This full color resource contains accurate information, personal stories and beautiful photographs. Please contact Sally at [sally@dsagc.com](mailto:sally@dsagc.com).**

## **BABIES WITH DS CAN TRANSFORM FAMILIES**

Whether they are informed prenatally or postnatally, some parents will react with initial disbelief, anger, and fear about the future when they first learn about DS. However, it's astonishing how quickly many regain their sense of purpose and are ready to move on. Many parents report being transformed by this experience, which brings a remarkable sense of strength, vitality, clarity of purpose, and creativity to their lives.

As pediatricians, we can let families know that there exists a welcoming DS community of knowledgeable, caring persons ready to stand by them and willing to be engaged along every step of their journey. For families, this is a lifelong process of learning, advocacy, and reformulating some of our most cherished assumptions about the human condition.

*Written by Dr. George Capone, "Delivering a Diagnosis of Down Syndrome," Kennedy Krieger Institute, Baltimore, Md., Reprinted with permission. [www.pediatricnews.com](http://www.pediatricnews.com) January, 2009.*

***New parents are eager to learn more about Down syndrome and they want their doctors to know more as well.***  
***DSAGC Parent Survey, 2008***



**The life expectancy for a person born with Down syndrome in 1925 was 9 years.**

**Today, that number has risen to 58.5 years and beyond.**

## **GREATER KNOWLEDGE OF DS WOULD BENEFIT NURSES**

Nurses and midwives need to improve their knowledge of Down syndrome to help support parents of babies with the condition, a UK study has shown.

University of Hertfordshire researchers interviewed parents of babies with Down syndrome during their postnatal care period. The parents reported limited opportunities to talk about the needs of their newborn because they perceived healthcare professionals to be embarrassed, or lacking knowledge about the condition, said the researchers.

They added that the parents also felt the practical advice and emotional support available to cope with their new experience was inadequate.

*Written by Clare Lomas, Nursing Times.net. April, 8, 2008*