

Your Monthly PeRCH

The Pediatric Research Cores Highlight is a feature showcasing specialized services that support child health researchers at Emory University, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and their partner institutions.

Pediatric Research Cores News

APRIL 2026

Spotlight on the Pediatrics Biostatistics Core

Leadership Announcement

In recognition of the sustained growth and critical importance of the Pediatric Biostatistics Core, we are pleased to announce an update to the leadership structure to support its continued advancement and influence. As of April 15, 2026, **Shasha Bai, PhD** has been named Scientific Core Director and **Scott Gillespie, MS, MSPH** serves as Technical Core Director. This enhanced leadership model reflects best practices across the Department of Pediatrics, and this specific leadership team brings the scientific acumen and technical expertise essential to drive the greatest innovation, rigor, and scientific impact. Together, Dr. Shasha Bai and Scott Gillespie lead this fantastic team in delivering high-impact, cutting-edge quantitative support, serving as a critical resource and partner for the pediatric research community. Please join us in congratulating them on their new leadership positions and expressing our appreciation for the entire **Pediatric Biostatistics Core** team's continued impactful partnership!



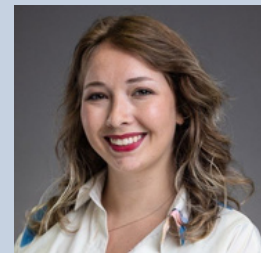
Shasha Bai, PhD
Scientific Core Director



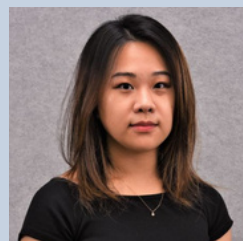
Scott Gillespie, MS, MSPH
Technical Core Director



Zhulin He, PhD
Associate Director



Adrianna Westbrook, MPH
Senior Biostatistician



Katie Liu, MS
Biostatistician



Andrew Jergel, MPH
Biostatistician



Laura M. Johnson, PhD
Biostatistician



Hui Huang, MS
Biostatistician

Congratulations to Adrianna Westbrook for her acceptance to the PhD Epidemiology program at Emory!

Adrianna Westbrook, MPH joined Emory's Department of Pediatrics as a biostatistician in the **Pediatric Biostatistics Core** in 2021. Adrianna will continue pursuing her passion for epidemiological research with a focus on pediatric conditions by enrolling as a PhD Epidemiology student in the Rollins School of Public Health, Fall 2026, at which time she will continue working with the Core part-time. Adrianna states that she is "thankful for the collaborators and for my team who have solidified my passion for quality clinical research. Whether it be in the School of Medicine or Rollins School of Public Health, I am proud to be at Emory, and honored to add the role of student to my Emory journey."



Adrianna Westbrook, MPH (left) and Scott Gillespie, MS, MPH (right)

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Announcements & Updates

2026 Annual Southeastern Pediatric Research Conference

Please join us **August 28th at the Southeastern Pediatric Research Conference!** Registration is open and available [here](#). Lock in your registration now with the early bird rate before August 14th. Cores will have a "Cores Corner" with posters as well as a brief rapid fire during presentations! Come join us as we dive into this year's theme, "Bench to Bedside and Beyond: Risk Factors and Intervention Strategies in Childhood Disease and Injury."



Pediatrics + Winship Flow Cytometry Core: FlowJo 11 Workshop on May 7–8

Mark your calendars for **May 7th–8th to attend a two-part FlowJo 11 hands-on workshop in HSRB II N600**, presented by Waters Biosciences (formerly known as BD Biosciences). Attendees will work with shared datasets to learn key features of the latest FlowJo software, including gating, reports, compensation, and computational tools. **Content will be taught over two sessions with attendance at both highly recommended.** Participants should bring a laptop and complete required pre-work provided by email after registration. Review additional details and register for the course [here](#).

Request for Feedback: In Vivo Imaging System (IVIS)



We are currently assessing **usage of In Vivo Imaging System (IVIS)** in pediatric research. If you currently use IVIS and/or have a near-term need, we will appreciate your response to this **very brief usage survey, linked [here](#)**.

The Pediatrics Cores are generously supported by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University. When presenting or publishing work completed using a Pediatrics Core, please include core-specific acknowledgement. If you are seeking specific language, you can find it under the "Acknowledgements" tab of the specific core [here](#).

Click [HERE](#) to see all of the research cores that support the Emory + Children's Pediatric Research Ecosystem.

Vice Chair for
Research Operations
Stacy Heilman, PhD

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Kevin Loop-Tapp

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Marketing
Megan Stewart



For more information about our research cores, please contact [Dr. Stacy Heilman](#).