



PeDRA (the Pediatric Dermatology Research Alliance) was formed in 2012 as an international organization of physicians and other researchers dedicated to optimizing skin health and curing skin diseases in children.

Mission: The mission of PeDRA is to promote and facilitate high quality collaborative clinical, translational, educational, and basic science research in pediatric dermatology.

Vision: The vision of PeDRA is to create sustainable collaborative research networks to better understand, prevent, treat and cure dermatologic diseases in children.

The Alliance – made up of clinicians and researchers committed to advancing pediatric dermatology research – will create a platform for high quality and collaborative pediatric clinical, translational and bench research.

There has been significant progress in just 6 months:

- The Society for Pediatric Dermatology (SPD) provided funds to cover administrative and planning needs;
- An executive committee and sub-committees have formed. Committees have been organized to tackle organizational planning & goal setting, grants and fundraising, as well as communications & outreach;
- Initial foci of research for PeDRA include: Vascular anomalies (Hemangioma of infancy); Inflammatory skin disease (atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, acne); and Genetic disorders (epidermolysis bullosa (EB) and ichthyosis). These foci will be refined over time;
- We have established an annual PeDRA meeting to discuss pediatric dermatology research priorities and set a research roadmap. The inaugural meeting is Oct. 18-20, 2013, at the Westin O'Hare Hotel in Rosemont, IL (R13 submitted for NIH funding);
- A PeDRA meeting open to all to be held just prior to the annual SPD meeting, in Milwaukee on Wed., July 10, 2013. This is a great opportunity to learn more about PeDRA and to get involved in the early work of the organization;
- PeDRA will have a breakout session at the upcoming July SPD called: *So you want to do Clinical Research?* - Sat., July 13, 2013, This is a practical "how to" session covering the IRB approval process, regulatory issues, multi-site trials, and working with industry;
- A PeDRA website is in development: www.pedraresearch.org.
- PeDRA played an important role in organizing a [tri-continental Pediatric Dermatology pre-meeting symposium at the International Investigative Dermatology meetings](#) in Edinburgh (Weds., May 8th, 9 am - 12 pm).

To engage with PeDRA through any of the above or should you have questions, please email: apaller@northwestern.edu or leichenfield@rchsd.org