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## **Vincent Mukkada Joins Cincinnati Center for Eosinophilic Disorders**

Vincent A. Mukkada, MD, has joined the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition and Cincinnati Center for Eosinophilic Disorders (CCED) at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics. As a physician for the CCED, Mukkada will provide clinical diagnosis and care for children with eosinophilic disorders.

"We are thrilled that Vince has become a part of our team," says Marc E. Rothenberg, MD, Director of the CCED. "His clinical expertise, especially with eosinophilic disorders, will certainly benefit our patients and research to find a cure."

Eosinophilic disorders are characterized by high levels of immune cells called eosinophils in various parts of the body. These painful, inflammatory disorders render children unable to eat a wide variety of foods. In addition, these conditions are chronic and require invasive procedures, such as endoscopy, for diagnosis and monitoring disease activity. Pediatric gastroenterologists such as Philip E. Putnam, MD, Medical Director of the CCED, and Dr. Mukkada are the physicians that perform these types of procedures.

Dr. Mukkada has considerable experience with eosinophilic disorders despite these being rare conditions. For the past three years, he served as Co-Director of the Pediatric Food Allergy / Eosinophilic Disease Program at Hasbro Children's Hospital (Providence, Rhode Island) and has been actively involved in eosinophilic research. In 2012, the North American Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition recognized his excellence with a Young Faculty Clinical Investigator Award.

Dr. Mukkada is no stranger to Cincinnati and did his medical school training at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. After graduation from medical school, he completed a pediatric internship and residency at Brown University and Hasbro Children's Hospital and clinical and research fellowships and a research scholarship in pediatric gastroenterology at the University of Colorado and The Children's Hospital (Denver, Colorado). Prior to joining Cincinnati Children's, he was an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Nutrition and Liver Diseases at Brown University and Warren Alpert Medical School and served as a physician at Hasbro Children's Hospital and Women and Infants Hospital (Providence, Rhode Island).

"I am extremely excited to be joining the world-class program here at the CCED," says Dr. Mukkada. "As a native Cincinnati, I am delighted to be able to 'come home' to work with this outstanding group to further both the research and clinical care that we provide to children from around the globe here at Cincinnati Children's."

Allergic diseases have been on the rise over the past 20 years, with approximately one of every 13 children having food allergies and more than 2.5 million children suffering from allergic

asthma. The incidence of eosinophilic disorders such as eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE), has also been increasing. Eosinophilic disorders were only recently recognized as distinct conditions.

Eosinophilic disorders can affect people of any age but are more common among young men who have a history of other allergic diseases, such as asthma and eczema. Eosinophilic disorders are often first discovered in children with feeding difficulties and failure to thrive, but eosinophilic conditions are often misunderstood and not well known, delaying proper diagnosis and treatment.

The Cincinnati Center for Eosinophilic Disorders was the first center established in the U.S. to bring together experts in various disciplines to tackle the challenges of eosinophilic disorders. Its team members are international leaders in diagnosing, treating and researching these rare disorders. The CCED is considered the most comprehensive clinic for these disorders, seeing both children and adults. It also is a dedicated research center.

### **About Cincinnati Children's**

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is third in the nation in U.S. News and World Report's 2012 Best Children's Hospitals ranking. It is ranked #1 for neonatology and in the top 10 for all pediatric specialties. Cincinnati Children's is one of the top two recipients of pediatric research grants from the National Institutes of Health. It is internationally recognized for improving child health and transforming delivery of care through fully integrated, globally recognized research, education and innovation. Additional information can be found at [www.cincinnatichildrens.org](http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org).

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