2022 American Pediatric Society Election Candidate

Position:	President-elect
Candidate:	Michael R. DeBaun, MD, MPH
Candidate Institution(s):	Vanderbilt University School of Medicine Vanderbilt-Meharry Center of Excellence in Sickle Cell Disease
Candidate Subspecialty:	Hematology/Oncology

Personal Interest Statement for an American Pediatric Society Council Position:

I have devoted my professional career to advancing the medical care of individuals with sickle cell disease and mentoring the next generation of pediatricians, physician-scientists, and pediatric nurses. My vision as president of APS builds on our formal mission, "Shaping the future of academic pediatrics through the engagement of distinguished child health leaders to represent the full diversity within the field," by expanding our reach and impact. I propose **three objectives** to achieve our APS mission.

1) Within the guidelines of APS, I would endorse expanding APS membership to include prominent child health leaders to include, but not be limited to, pediatric psychology, pediatric surgery, pediatric neurology, pediatric nursing, and other child health fields.

2) I would build on the momentum of our rapidly evolving new virtual world and establish a quarterly APS State of Child Health Art Symposia for one year. The pilot symposia would be virtual, designed to address current and pressing child-health challenges, including one devoted to scientific discovery, advocacy, public health. The forum would be open access to all that want to attend.

3) I would commit to co-facilitating a bimonthly open access APS President Book Club to enhance dialogue and build a sense of community among those seeking to promote child health. The selected books would address topics common in our evolving society and are meant to be discussion points for honest dialogs from our community with disparate views. The pilot would last one year.

My platform is ambitious, but my focus is clear. If elected APS president, my key objective is to enhance our community's contributions to improving child health. I have the support of my family, my Department Chair, and our research laboratory members in pursuing these goals, and I hope to earn yours.

Michael R. DeBaun, MD, MPH
Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Vice-Chair of Clinical Research and Translational Research, Department of Pediatrics
Founder and Director of the Vanderbilt-Meharry Center of Excellence in Sickle Cell Disease
JC Peterson Endowed Chair in Pediatrics

Michael DeBaun, MD, MPH

Michael R. DeBaun received his MD and Masters in Health Services Research from Stanford University in 1987 and his MPH from Johns Hopkins University in 1993. He was a pediatric resident (1987-1990), Pediatric Chief Resident (1991-1992), and Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellow (1990-1993) at Washington University / St. Louis Children's Hospital. He was a United States Public Health Service Epidemiology Fellow with the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD (1992-1996). Previously, Michael was a Professor of Pediatrics, Neurology, and Biostatistics and held the Ferring Family Endowed Chair in Pediatrics at Washington University School of Medicine. Currently, he is a Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine and the founding Director of the Vanderbilt-Meharry Center of Excellence in Sickle Cell Disease and JC Peterson Endowed Chair in Pediatrics at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Michael is a member of the Society for Pediatric Research, American Society for Clinical Research, Association of American Physicians, American Pediatric Society, National Academy of Medicine, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and American Clinical and Climatological Association. Michael was elected to the APS Council (2009) and is on the Executive Committee for Research in Academic Pediatrics Initiative on Diversity (RAPID).

Medical education and dates

1987	M.D., Stanford University
1987	M.S., Stanford University (Health Services Research)
1993	M.P.H., Epidemiology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health

House staff training and dates

1987-1990	Pediatric Resident, St. Louis Children's Hospital, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
1991-1992	Pediatric Chief Resident, St. Louis Children's Hospital, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

Fellowship positions and dates

1990-1993	Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellow, St. Louis Children's Hospital, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
1992-1996	United States Public Health Service Epidemiology Fellowship, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD

Faculty positions

1996-2003	Assistant Professor of Pediatrics (Hematology/Oncology), Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
2003-2007	Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
2003-2007	Associate Professor of Biostatistics, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
2005-2007	Associate Professor of Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
2007-2010	Professor of Pediatrics, Biostatistics and Neurology, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
2008-2010	Ferring Family Chair in Pediatrics, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
2009-2010	Guest Researcher with the Centers for Disease Control's Division of Blood Disorders and Office of Public Health Genomics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA (sabbatical)

Current position

2010-	Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Vice-Chair of Clinical Research, Department of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN
2010-	Founder and Director of the Vanderbilt-Meharry Center of Excellence in Sickle Cell Disease, Nashville, TN
2011-	JC Peterson Endowed Chair in Pediatrics, Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN

Elected Society memberships

1998	Society for Pediatric Research
2006	American Society for Clinical Investigation
2008	Association of American Physicians
2008	American Pediatric Society
2009	National Academy of Medicine
2011	American Association for the Advancement of Science
2016	American Clinical and Climatological Association

Previous and current service and involvement in the activities of the American Pediatric Society

2019-2023	APS Council Member

Areas of research interest

For over 25 years, Dr. DeBaun's research has led to fundamental changes in understanding the clinical epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical, cognitive, and educational impact, and treatment of strokes and silent strokes in children and adults with sickle cell disease. Dr. DeBaun has been the principal investigator or co-leader of 8 NIH or foundation-funded controlled clinical trials designed to prevent strokes in children or adults with sickle cell disease in North America, Europe, and Nigeria. Dr. DeBaun has published, mainly as senior author, over 60 original publications on neurological complications, risk factors, and treatment of strokes in children and adults with sickle cell disease.

Dr. DeBaun has a robust global research focus in his laboratory. Specifically, in Nigeria, he and his mentees are funded to prevent strokes in children and adults with sickle cell anemia, to prevent priapism in men with sickle cell disease, and malnutrition in older children with sickle cell disease. In Ghana, his mentees are funded to decrease the high maternal and perinatal death rates in women with sickle cell disease.

Dr. DeBaun and former mentee and now collaborator, Dr. Adetola Kassim (Professor of Medicine, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine) are co-chairs of two bone marrow transplant stroke trials to cure children and adults with SCD, one is the NHLBI funded (BMT-CTN 1507) and the second is philanthropy funded. Both Phase II clinical trials are designed to cure sickle cell disease with nonmyeloablative, related HLA-haploidentical bone marrow transplantation with post-transplantation cyclophosphamide regimens. However, the Vanderbilt Learning Collaborative for curative therapy includes middle-income countries (Brazil, India). Recently, the NHLBI awarded Dr. DeBaun and colleagues a 5-year grant to elucidate curative therapy's main late health effects for sickle cell disease.

Dr. DeBaun is highly sought after at Vanderbilt as a medical student mentor and fellow mentor. For the last 10 years, he has been the primary mentor for 6 medical students who received national or institutional competitive grants to work in his clinical laboratory for an entire year. Four students received the national competitive Doris Duke Medical Student Award (2014, 2015, 2017, 2018)**,** and two students received the Vanderbilt Medical Scholars Award (2013, 2016). All six students have been women, and three students were from Meharry Medical School, a Historically Black Medical School. Since 2017, Dr. DeBaun has created and currently directs the Vanderbilt-Meharry James Puckette

Carter Summer Scholarship Program, an 8-week summer scholar program for Meharry Medical College students. This program aims to expose and ignite interest in a career in academic medicine and foster academic leadership skills. Over 30 Meharry Medical students have participated in the program to date. Several have gone on to be the first authors of publications and have been accepted into highly competitive residency programs. This program has been funded by the Burroughs Wellcome fund (2021-2024). Based on his laboratory's strong track record of mentoring, Dr. DeBaun has received two international mentoring awards, the Maureen Andrew Mentor Award from the Society of Pediatric Research and the Clinical Mentor of the Year Award from the American Society of Hematology.

Advocacy is another component of his laboratory. Dr. DeBaun was the primary physician author for the American Jobs Creation Act (H.R. 4520), which President Bush signed into law on Oct. 22, 2004. In 2015, Dr. DeBaun successfully lobbied for a state law authorizing Tennessee Medicaid to provide medical assistance for increased services and public education related to sickle cell disease.