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I started my Pediatric Residency in 1992 at Emory followed by all completing all my clinical training there as well followed by subsequent years of service as faculty and became full professor in 2023. As a junior faculty member, I attended a conference Where I randomly placed a sticky note with my name on a board with the heading Quality Improvement (QI). It was from there at a Children's Hospitals Neonatal Consortium (CHNC) meeting that the trajectory of my QI career began. My involvement in CHNC represents how my career has evolved over the years. Over the years I matured and contributed to the three pillars of professional academia (teaching, service, and scholarship). As CHNC began its QI mission I directly set the vision and mission as well as in the strategic planning and design of the program with two other influential colleagues (Jean Pallotto and Bev Brozansk). We have now set the infrastructure for successful QI collaboratives ranging from 17 to 40+ centers with a multidisciplinary approach. Our projects ranged from CALBSI prevention to peri-operative care of the surgical neonate to breast feeding initiatives in a patient population unique to tertiary children hospital NICUs. From personal growth and QI experience through CHNC, I mentor junior faculty; am recognized as an expert in the field; and develop and participate in local and national education conferences. I am also a surveyor for American Academy of Pediatric NICU Verification Program wherein I critically assess the implementation, processes, and outcomes of health systems' QI programs in NICUs across the nation.

In 2014 I was elected to be an executive member of CHNC, and subsequently was appointed an officer and then a board member of this now multimillion-dollar organization. One of my many operational duties includes chair of the annual symposium. We are particularly focused on supporting trainees and junior faculty.

I was medical director of the NICU for the last 8 years at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston Hospital a fast-growing institution with national prominence affiliated with Emory University. It provides the care for the most complicated neonates in our region including programs for severe bronchopulmonary dysplasia; a fetal care center; extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation; and dialysis in the smallest of infants. I transition from medical director to become the division's Quality Improvement Director in 2021.

I did clinical research with the NICHD Neonatal Research Network's as site PI for the SUPPORT trial. The results from this trial changed the landscape of neonatology. Information and further studies from those patients that continue to impact and inform neonatology. I have been fortunate to have cultivated several collaborations wherein mentorship and research has successfully converged. My most significant accomplishment lies with the mentorship of trainees and early faculty members. To see how they have succeeded and what they have accomplished in their careers is the best honor I could have.