



Joseph J. Zorc, MD, MSCE

Professor of Pediatrics

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Dr. Zorc is the Mark Fishman Professor in the Department of Pediatrics of the Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania and Medical Director of Analytics and of Emergency Information Systems at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Zorc completed training in Pediatrics and Pediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) at the Johns Hopkins Hospital before coming to CHOP as a faculty member in 1998.

Dr. Zorc career has been focused at the intersection of interventional clinical research, quality improvement, and clinical informatics. His research interests include clinical trials studying acute pediatric respiratory illness, from small investigator-initiated trials led by trainees to multi-center federally-funded trials in the Pediatric Emergency Research Applied Care Network (PECARN). He has authored over 100 publications and has participated in national guidelines committees including the American Academy of Pediatrics Bronchiolitis Guideline. In addition, Dr. Zorc received formal training in quality improvement methodology and has played a key role in the development of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Clinical Pathways Program and associated clinical decision support. He's developed expertise in clinical informatics including subspecialty board certification and has participated in local and national roles that focus on use of the electronic health record (EHR) as a tool to improve research and implement evidence-based findings at the bedside. He has used the EHR to implement multiple treatment protocols at CHOP that have improved quality of care and served as a foundation for pragmatic clinical trials.

Among his achievements, Dr. Zorc:

- Served as lead co-investigator on the first clinical trial conducted by the PECARN emergency research network evaluating the efficacy of dexamethasone for bronchiolitis and co-chair of the PECARN Respiratory Working Group
- Has received best abstract awards at national pediatric meeting sessions for Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Quality Improvement, and Clinical Informatics
- Serves as Co-editor in Chief of *Pediatric Emergency Care*, the primary journal focused on the PEM specialty
- Served as first chair of the voluntary Pediatric Emergency Medicine Steering Advisory Board for Epic, a leading EHR vendor
- Awarded the Mark Fishman Endowed Chair at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia