



## July 2018 Newsletter

### *Research News*

The SOAAR team has been hard at work this month moving our research projects forward and diligently writing manuscripts on our findings! We submitted 10 abstracts for the 2018 American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Annual Scientific Meeting that will take place in Seattle this upcoming November, two manuscripts on our new food allergy prevalence data, an update from our 2011 prevalence study. It's been a busy and exciting Summer for Team SOAAR and we look forward to learning more from our data and sharing our findings!

**Learn more about what we've been up to this month below:**

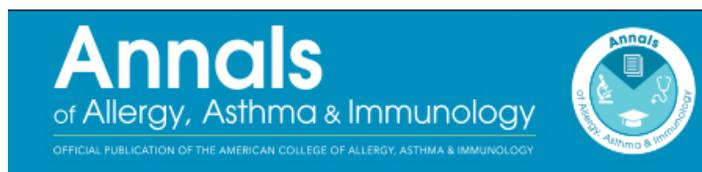
**[Abstracts Submitted to ACAAI 2018](#)**



American  
**College**  
of Allergy, Asthma  
& Immunology

1. The Prevalence of Eczema in Children with Food Allergy
2. Egg Allergy in US Children
3. Caregiver Quality of Life and Management Self-Efficacy in a Technology-Based Asthma Medication Monitoring Clinical Trial
4. Prevalence and Correlates of Food Allergy Among Medicaid-Enrolled U.S Children
5. The Epidemiology of Milk Allergy in US Children: An Update
6. Parent Report of Physician Diagnosis in Pediatric Food Allergy: An Update
7. Prevalence, Severity, and Distribution of Adult-Onset Food Allergy
8. Measuring Indicators of Quality Care among Medicaid-Enrolled Children with Food Allergy
9. Updated Pediatric Peanut Allergy Prevalence in the United States
10. Physician Diagnosis of Adult Food Allergy

**New Manuscript Accepted for Publication**



1. Waheeda Samady, Jennifer Trainor, Bridget Smith, Ruchi Gupta. **Food-induced Anaphylaxis in Infants and Children.** *Annals of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology*, 2018; DOI: [10.1016/j.anai.2018.05.025](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anai.2018.05.025)

Congratulations to the SOAAR team for their recent manuscript acceptance! The objective of this study was to describe food induced anaphylaxis in infants (<12 months of age) and to compare their clinical presentation with that in older children. To read about their findings, see below for the press release and news coverage!

### **News coverage:**

**Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital:** [Allergic Reactions to Foods are Milder in Infants, Study Finds](#)

**US News:** [Food Allergies Less Severe in Infants: Study](#)

**News Medical:** [Infants have less severe food-induced anaphylaxis unlike older children](#)

**Medical XPress:** [Allergic Reactions to foods are milder in infants](#)

### **Manuscripts Submitted for Review**

# PEDIATRICS®

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

**The Public Health Impact of Childhood Food Allergies in the United States**



## The Public Health Impact of Adult Food Allergies in the United States

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# *Project Updates*

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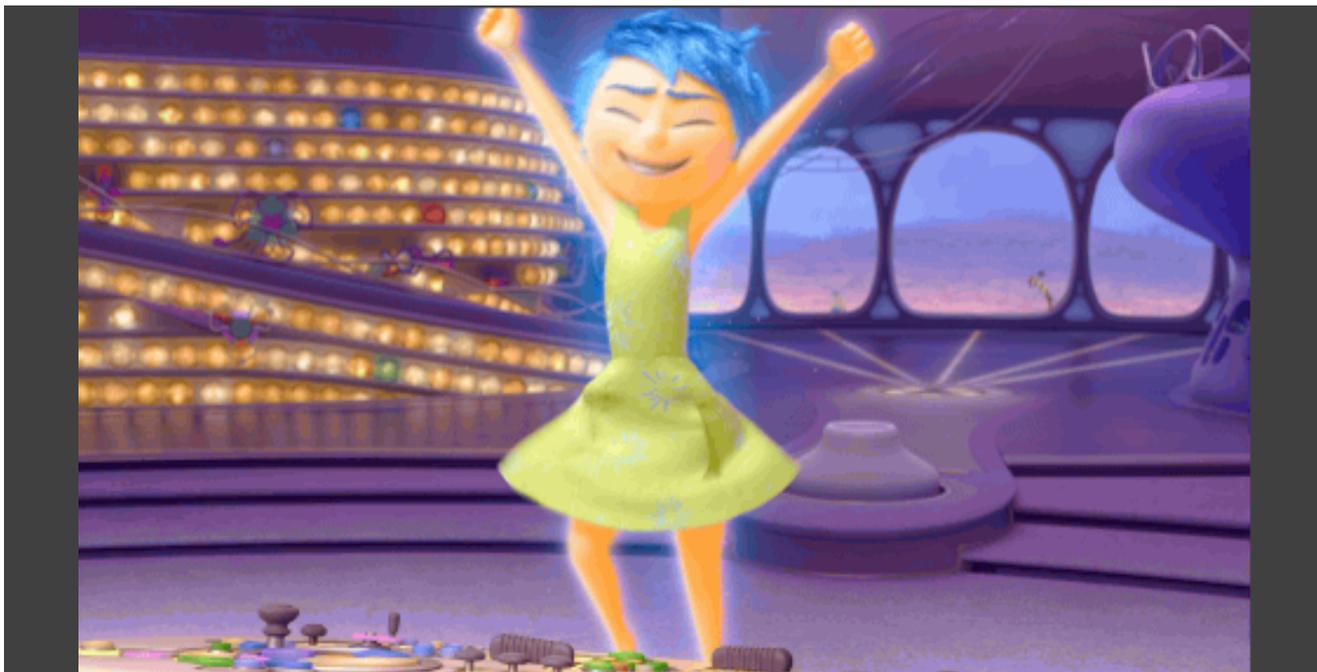
### **The FAMILY Study: The Food Allergy Management in Low Income Youth Study-- A family-centered approach to improving anaphylaxis knowledge and childhood food allergy management skills.**

The FAMILY study aims to first fill the research gap by providing a patient-centered approach to studying food-allergy management amongst food allergic children and their families. This study also focuses on the specific barriers of low-income families in acutely managing their children's food allergy symptoms, and it aims use this information to create an effective management plan that is easy to follow and will improve a caregiver's ability to effectively manage acute food allergy symptoms in children.



## **Psychosocial Needs of Children and Families with Life-Threatening Food Allergies: Promoting Coping and Resilience Among Children/Families with Food Allergies**

The SOAAR team is interviewing Chicago-based pediatric allergists and parents of food-allergic children to assess mental health needs of and appropriate interventions for children and families affected by food allergies. Understanding food allergy quality of life events, the psychosocial impact of a food allergy diagnosis and treatment, and how stages of development can influence anxiety about allergen exposure and/or possible reactions, will help inform how to design new interventions to improve and support families and help them increase their coping skills.



## Understanding Precautionary Allergen Labeling Preferences Among Food Allergy Stakeholders

Due to the lack of policy surrounding how to communicate the risk of potential presence of allergens in foods, the SOAAR team is conducting a study to learn more about food allergy stakeholders' perspectives and preferences on precautionary allergen labeling language (PAL). PAL is language such as “may contain \_\_\_” or “manufactured on shared equipment with \_\_\_”, and is voluntarily placed by the food industry on their products.

The information learned from this study will help the researchers learn more about clear preferences for current and alternative labeling practices. Another intended outcome from the results of this study is to possibly influence future FDA (Food and Drug Administration) policies and requirements surrounding allergen advisory labeling to help consumers more easily and safely select allergen-free foods.

To read the original study the SOAAR team published on food allergen labeling and purchasing habits in the United States, click [here](#).



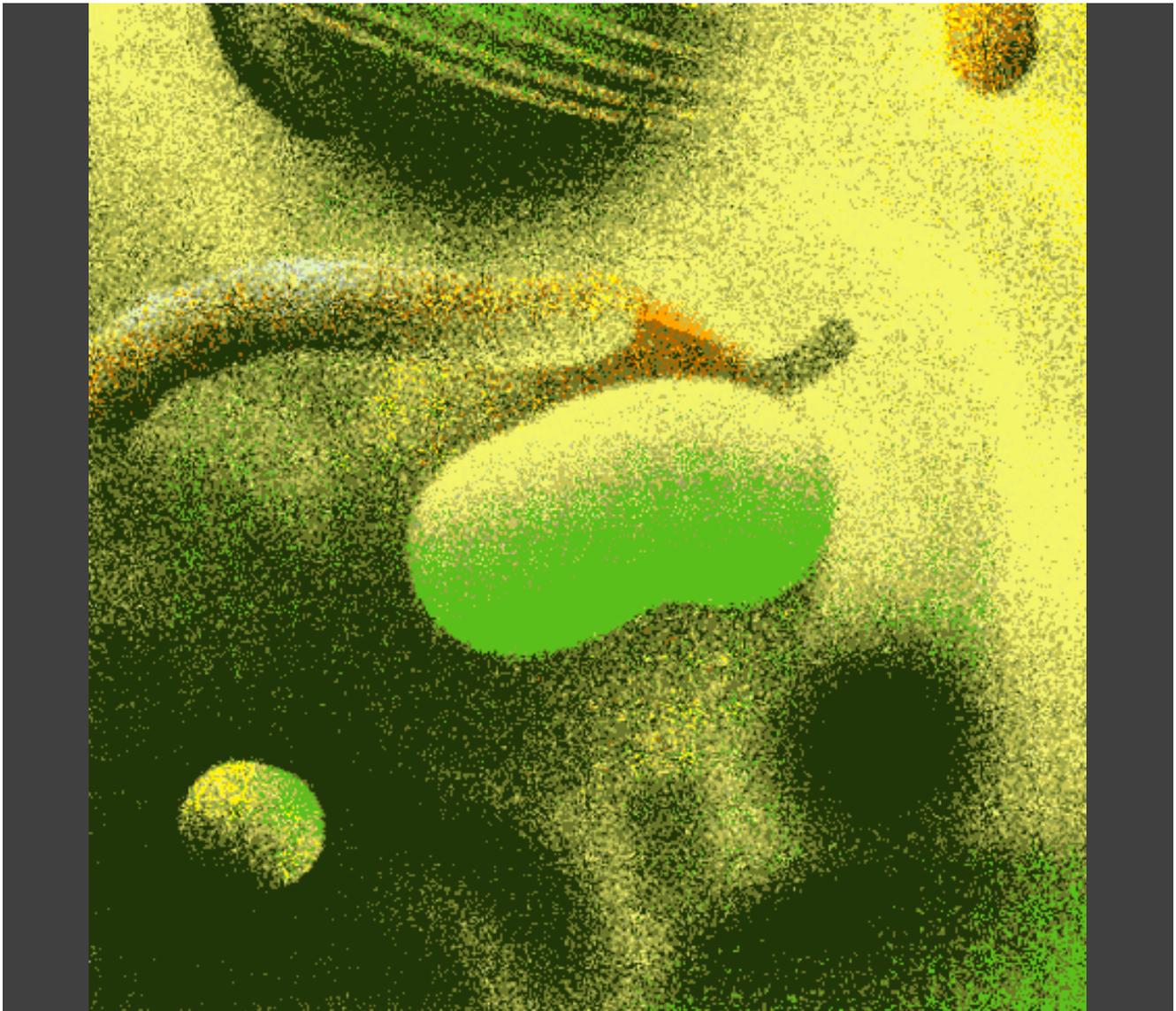
## The Microbiome and Food Allergy

The SOAAR team was recently awarded a supplement to our NIH funded R01, FORWARD, which examines the natural development of food allergy and its differing effects on African American and Caucasian families.

This supplement aims to:

1. Evaluate the gut and skin microbiome of children with food allergy
2. Compare the microbiome of children with food allergy with age and race matched healthy controls
3. Evaluate the effect of race (African American and Caucasian) on the microbiome profile of children with food allergy
4. Find immunological markers that can correlate with the alterations in the microbiome

Through these aims, we hope to improve the knowledge on the microbial components that could predict food allergies and further lead to development of better treatment and prevention strategies.



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## *Recent Events*

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On July 17th, Dr. Gupta spoke at the Institute of Food Technologists 2018 (IFT18) Meeting where she presented "Food Allergy- What are the Economic Costs to Healthcare and Families." IFT18 brought together representatives from industry, government, and academia to

share and challenge one another with the latest research, innovative solutions, and forward-thinking topics in food science and technology.

If you want to read the original studies, see below:

[The Economic Impact of Childhood Food Allergy in the United States](#)

[Socioeconomic Disparities in the Economic Impact of Childhood Food Allergy](#)

**Learn more about the Institute of Food Technologists 2018 Conference [here.](#)**

## **Northwestern Medicine® Scholars at Westinghouse College Prep**

On the morning of July 16th, Dr. Gupta gave a presentation to a group of Northwestern Medicine scholars. These scholars are a part of a partnership program with Northwestern Memorial Hospital and George Westinghouse College Prep Public High School located in Chicago. Students who are selected are provided with academic resources, and mentorship on public health and medicine. This year, the focus was on Pediatrics. The lecture was for scholars to understand where there are disparities in pediatric care and role of the pediatrician in a hospital and both academically. Her presentation was called, "Food Allergy Epidemiology, Management and Disparities." Dr. Gupta went into depth about the prevalence of food allergies and food allergic reactions and demonstrated the different types of epinephrine auto-injectors used to treat anaphylactic reactions. The students were then given three exam questions derived from her lecture's content. Northwestern Medicine Scholar lectures are a tremendous learning experience for young students who dream of becoming doctors themselves one day. Dr. Gupta and the SOAAR team are always pleased to support and contribute to this community of young learners.



## 83rd Florida Food & Nutrition Symposium

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Dr. Gupta gave a presentation at the 83rd Florida Food & Nutrition Symposium led by the Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. FAND advocates to promote optimal nutrition and health for all people through their dietetic and nutrition professionals. They work hard to educate the lives of people through nutrition and public policies to promote safe practices. At this year's symposium, Dr. Gupta shared her knowledge of food allergies through her talk titled, "Why the Serious Spike in Severe Allergic Reactions to Foods?" She touched on the rise of food allergies, management practices, and how to prevent food allergic reactions from happening. This talk was geared towards not only dietitians but to community members interested in learning more about better food allergic practices.

For more info click [Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#)

## Smith Child Health Research, Outreach and Advocacy Center Meeting

Every month, Lurie Children's has a faculty and administrative staff meeting to share the latest research and projects teams have been working on. On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Gupta and the SOAAR team gave a presentation about the latest prevalence data, new clinical and community projects, and the expansion of SOAAR. Along with the latest projects, Dr. Gupta also mentioned the wonderful feedback SOAAR received on the Midwest FACES conference held in June. Dr. Gupta asked the faculty and staff if anyone had onset adult food allergies. Dr. Gupta demonstrated what happens between Oral Allergy Syndrome and food allergies which can cause anaphylaxis.

SOAAR was happy to participate in this forum and looks to forward to future collaborative opportunities.



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## *Upcoming Events*

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**2018 FPIES Education Conference  
August 3rd-4th, 2018- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Dr. Gupta has been invited to speak at The 2018 FPIES Education Conference about the pediatrician's outlook on Food Protein Enterocolitis Syndrome, as well as how to prepare for a pediatrician's visit when your child has FPIES. The event will be

hosted by the International FPIES Association and is a powerful opportunity to bring the community together to hear from experts on a wide spectrum of FPIES-related topics.

To learn more about the conference, visit <https://www.fpies.org/>

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## *Partner Spotlight: Institute for Public Health and Medicine (IPHAM)*

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Directed by [Ronald Ackermann, MD, MPH](#), The Institute of Public Health and Medicine (IPHAM) aims to accelerate innovation at the interface of medicine and public health and to achieve measurable improvements in health for patients and populations. Team SOAAR is proud to be part of IPHAM's initiatives as part of their Center for Community Health, whose mission is to support meaningful community and academic engagement across the research spectrum to improve the health and health equity of patients. To learn more about the center and all of the incredible work the programs do, see below!

# Centers

- [Behavior and Health](#)
- [Bioethics and Medical Humanities](#)
- [Buehler Center for Health Policy and Economics](#)
- [Communication and Health](#)
- [Community Health](#)
- [Education in Health Sciences](#)
- [Engineering and Health](#)
- [Global Health](#)
- [Health Information Partnerships](#)
- [Healthcare Studies](#)
- [Patient-Centered Outcomes](#)
- [Population Health Sciences](#)
- [Primary Care Innovation](#)
- [Translational Metabolism and Health](#)



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**Our e-mailing address is:**  
soar@northwestern.edu

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