

Wael N. Sayej, M.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Signature

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Business Address:

Connecticut Children's Medical Center
282 Washington Street, Hartford, CT 06106
Phone#: (860) 545-9560
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ACADEMIC and FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Attending Physician – Pediatric Gastroenterologist Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology & Nutrition Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT	July 15, 2009-Current
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics University of Connecticut School of Medicine Farmington, CT	July 15, 2009-Current
Consultant; Pediatric Gastroenterologist Department of Pediatrics Danbury Hospital, Danbury, Connecticut	February 15, 2011
Associate Medical Staff Department of Pediatrics Connecticut Children's Medical Center At Saint Mary's Hospital, Waterbury, Connecticut	May 9, 2013-Current

HOSPITAL and UNIVERSITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Director, Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Department of Pediatrics Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology & Nutrition Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT University of Connecticut School of Medicine	August 1, 2014- Current
Director, Eosinophilic Esophagitis Program and Center Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology & Nutrition Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT	March 1, 2015 - Current

Director; Pediatric Capsule Endoscopy Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology & Nutrition Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT	October 2009 – Current
Co-Director, Connecticut Children's Aerodigestive Team (CCAT) Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology & Nutrition Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT A collaborative team between the departments of Gastroenterology, Pulmonology and ENT I was one of the original members who developed the team	Feb 2012 – July 2014
Associate Director, Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Department of Pediatrics Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology & Nutrition Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Hartford, CT University of Connecticut School of Medicine	Sept 2009 – April 2013

MEDICAL and POST-DOCTORAL TRAINING

<i>Fellowship Training</i> Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition Digestive Diseases and Nutrition Center Women & Children's Hospital of Buffalo University at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY	07/2006 – 06/2009
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<i>Internship and Residency Training</i> Pediatrics UMDNJ – New Jersey Medical School (Rutgers University) Newark, NJ Affiliate Hospital: Hackensack University Medical Center Hackensack, NJ	07/2003 – 06/2006
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EDUCATION

<i>Graduate School (MBA)</i> University of Connecticut School of Business - Part-time MBA Program Anticipated Degree: Masters in Business Administration: Healthcare Management Completed 9 courses – GPA 3.91	08/2010 – Current
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<i>Medical School (MD)</i> Our Lady of Fatima University Fatima College of Medicine Valenzuela City, Philippines Degree: Doctor of Medicine (MD)	08/1996 - 11/2000
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<i>Undergraduate Education (BS)</i> College of Mount Saint Vincent (CMSV) Riverdale, NY Major: Biology/Pre-Med with a concentration in Molecular Biology Minor: Mathematics Degree: Bachelor of Science	09/1992 – 05/1996
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<i>High School</i>	09/1989 – 06/1992
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Poughkeepsie High School
Poughkeepsie, NY
Degree: Honors Scientific Diploma, Class Rank #3 of 154

OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Hepatology and Transplantation

March 2008

I completed a one-month elective rotation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center
Preceptors: Dr. William Balistreri and Dr. James Heubi

BOARD CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified: Subspecialty of Pediatric Gastroenterology 2012 – 2022
- Certified: American Board of Pediatrics 2007 – 2017

LICENSURE

- State of Connecticut Medical License (#047256)
Issued: 12/23/2008 Expires: 10/31/2017
- State of Connecticut Controlled Substance Registration (# DSP44853)
Issued: 01/29/2009 Expires: 02/28/2018
- Federal DEA License (#FS1144358)
Issued: 11/07/2008 Expires: 02/29/2018
- New York State Unrestricted Medical License (#241205)
Issued: 07/25/2006 Expires: 09/30/2017
- Ohio State Training Medical License (Training License) 2008

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Victoria Grossi, DO and **Wael N. Sayej, MD**; "Colitis"; The NASPGHAN Fellows Concise Review of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (Second Edition) 2016
2. Victoria Grossi, DO and **Wael N. Sayej, MD**; "Radiation Oncology"; The NASPGHAN Fellows Concise Review of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (Second Edition) 2016
3. Jasmeet Mokha, MBBS and **Wael N. Sayej, MD**; "Colic and Gas"; The NASPGHAN Fellows Concise Review of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (Second Edition) 2016
4. Jasmeet Mokha, MBBS and **Wael N. Sayej, MD**; "Appendicitis"; The NASPGHAN Fellows Concise Review of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (Second Edition) 2016
5. Angela Pressley-Wallace, MD and **Wael N. Sayej, MD**; "Chronic Constipation and Encopresis"; The NASPGHAN Fellows Concise Review of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (Second Edition) 2016
6. Jenson, Todd; **Sajej, Wael N.**; Finck, Christine; "Esophageal Tissue Engineering" – Chapter 7: "Frontiers in Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine"; Volume 3. United Arab Emirates; Bentham Science; ebook, 11-04-2015-Ebk series/FSCRM/EOI-59

7. Schaufler, Candi; Moote, Douglas; **Sajej, Wael**; "Ascites and Peritonitis" – Chapter "Pediatric Gastroenterology (A Color Handbook); John F. Pohl, Christopher Jolley and Daniel Gelfond; CRC Press; 1st edition (May 27, 2014)

PUBLICATIONS

1. Victoria Grossi, Natalie Bezler, **Wael N. Sajej**; "An Ulcer of the Duodenum in an Adolescent Caused by a Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumor"; *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol*. 2016 Sep 6. PMID: 27613258
2. **Wael N Sajej**, Antoine Ménoret, Anu S Maharjan, Marina Fernandez, Zhu Wang, Fabiola Balarezo, Jeffrey S Hyams, Francisco A Sylvester and Anthony T Vella; "Characterizing the inflammatory response in esophageal mucosal biopsies in children with eosinophilic esophagitis"; *Clinical & Translational Immunology* (2016) **5**, e88; doi:10.1038/cti.2016.30 Published online 1 July 2016. PMID: 27525061
3. **Wael N. Sajej**, Paul R. Knight III, Weidun Alan Guo, Barbara Mullan, Patricia J. Ohtake, Bruce A. Davidson, Abdur Khan, Robert D. Baker, and Susan S. Baker. "Advanced Glycation End Products Induce Obesity and Hepatosteatosis in CD-1 Wild-Type Mice"; *BioMed Research International*, Volume 2016 (2016), Article ID 7867852, 12 pages. PMID: 26942201
4. Semancik E, **Sajej WN**. "Oral immunotherapy for peanut allergy induces eosinophilic esophagitis: three pediatric case reports"; *Pediatr Allergy Immunol*. 2016 Feb 17. PMID: 26888330
5. Jensen T, Blanchette A, Vadasz S, Dave A, Canfarotta M, **Sajej WN**, Finck C. "Biomimetic and synthetic esophageal tissue engineering"; *Biomaterials*. 2015 Jul;57:133-41. *Biomaterials*. 2015.04.004. PMID: 25916501
6. Lindsay L. Hollander, MD¹; Eric D. Girard, MD¹; Kimberly Ruscher, MD¹; **Wael Sajej, MD²**; Christine Finck, MD¹. "Infected Urachal Cyst Secondary to a Crohn's Enterourachal Fistula"; *J Pediatr Surg*. 2012. PMID: 23217916
7. Schaufler C, Lerer T, Campbell B, Weiss R, Cohen J, **Sajej W.**, Hyams J.; "Pre-operative Immunosuppression is Not Associated with Increased Post-Operative Complications Following Colectomy in Children With Ulcerative Colitis" *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr*. 2012 Mar 2. [Epub ahead of print]; *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr*. 2012 Oct; 55(4):421-4. PMID: 22395189
8. Raza Patel, Susan S. Baker, **Wael N. Sajej** and Robert Baker; "*Two Cases of Helicobacter pylori-Negative Gastric Outlet Obstruction in Children*"; *Case Reports in Gastrointestinal Medicine*, vol. 2011, Article ID 749850, 3 pages, 2011. PMID: 22606426
9. **Sajej, Wael N.**, Alkhouri, Razan, Baker, Robert D., Patel, Raza, Baker, Susan S., "*Esophagitis in Children with Celiac Disease*"; *ISRN Gastroenterology*, vol. 2011, Article ID 489065, 3 pages, 2011. PMID: 21991513
10. Susan S. Baker, MD, PhD, Howard Faden, MD, **Wael Sajej, MD**, Raza Patel, MD, and Robert D. Baker, MD, PhD; "*Increasing Incidence of Community-Associated Atypical Clostridium difficile Disease in Children*"; *Clin Pediatr (Phila)*. 2010 Jul;49(7):644-7. Epub 2010 Feb 11. PMID: 20150212
11. **Sajej, W.**; Patel, R.; Baker, R.; Tron, E.; Baker S.; "*Treatment with High Dose Proton Pump Inhibitors Helps Distinguish Eosinophilic Esophagitis from Non-Eosinophilic Esophagitis.*" *J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr* 49(4):393-399, October 2009. PMID: 19633574

12. **Sajej, W.**; Baker, R.; Fisher, J.; Baker, S.; “*Photo Quiz: Two Teens with Retrosternal Chest Pain and Odynophagia*” – case report of two teens with Minocycline induced esophagitis. Consultant for Pediatricians, August 2008, Vol 7 No.8, Pages 329-334.

ABSTRACTS/POSTERS

1. **Wael N. Sajej, MD**, Marina L. Fernandez, MS, Susan Goodine, RD; “Esophageal Eosinophilia in Pediatric Patients with Celiac Disease Resolves on a Gluten Free Diet”
World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Montreal, October 2016
2. **Wael N. Sajej, MD**; Todd Jensen, MHS; Christopher Foster, MS; Marina Fernandez, MS; Christine Finck, MD; “Characterization of Cultured Esophageal Epithelial Cells from Pediatric Patients with Eosinophilic Esophagitis”
World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Montreal, October 2016
Awarded: Poster of Distinction
3. Katrina Loh, MD; Natalie S. Bezler, MD; Karan Emerick, MD; **Wael N. Sajej, MD**; “A Rare Case of Symptomatic Hereditary Hemochromatosis in a 5-Year-Old Male”
World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Montreal, October 2016
4. **Wael N. Sajej**, Marina L. Fernandez, Lori Alexander, Penny Ritter, Donna Zeiter, Franziska Mohr; “A Prospective, Randomized, Single Blinded Study to Evaluate Two Different 1-Day Bowel Preparation Regimens in Children Ages 8-21 Years Undergoing Capsule Endoscopy”
World Congress of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Montreal, October 2016
5. Jensen T; Pease M; Drinnan C; Mitchell A; **Sajej WN**; Finck, C; “Treatment of Pediatric Esophageal Disease with a Tissue Engineered Biomimetic Construct”; 2015 TERMIS 4th World Congress
6. Rana, Ajay; Lerer, Trudy; Fernandez, Marina; Hyams, Jeffrey; Sylvester, Francisco Augusto; **Sajej, Wael**. "Routine Premedication with Intravenous Methylprednisolone Can Prevent the Need for Dose Intensification of Infliximab in Children with Crohn's Disease"
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2015 in Washington, DC
7. Jasmeet Mokha; Melissa Caimano; Justin Radolf; **Wael Sajej, MD**. “Comparison of the Gastric Fluid Microbiome of Children with and without Eosinophilic Esophagitis”
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2015 in Washington, DC
8. Samela, Kate; Vance, Katherine; Chatfield, Beth; Goodine, Susan; Lerer, Trudy; **Sajej, Wael N**. “Give SFED a Chance”
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2015 in Washington, DC
9. Fable, Jacqueline; Fernandez, Marina; Lerer, Trudy; **Sajej, Wael N**. “Comparison of Oral Topical Corticosteroids in Pediatric Patients with Eosinophilic Esophagitis” ESOPHAGITIS”
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2015 in Washington, DC
10. Semancik, Eileen; **Sajej, Wael N**. “Case Series: Peanut Allergy Oral Immunotherapy Inducing Eosinophilic Esophagitis”
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2015 in Washington, DC
11. Grossi, Victoria; Bezler, Natalie; Finck, Christine; **Sajej, Wael**. “A Rare Cause of Duodenal Ulcer in and Adolescent Male”
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2015 in Washington, DC

12. Alkhouri, R.; Bahia, G.; **Sajej, W.** "The Outcome of Medical Management with IV Antibiotics of Intra-Abdominal Abscesses in Children with Crohn's Disease"
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia
13. Maharjan, Anu; **Sajej, Wael N.**; Ménoret, Antoine; Fernandez, Marina L.; Sylvester, Francisco A.; Hyams, Jeffrey S.; Vella, Anthony T. "Biological Assay to Characterize Esophageal Lavage Fluid From Children with Eosinophilic Esophagitis"
Poster Presentation at NASPGHAN 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia
14. **Sajej, Wael N.**; Fernandez, Marina L.; Sylvester, Francisco A.; Hyams, Jeffrey S.; Vella, Anthony T.; Ménoret, Antoine. "T-Lymphocyte Isolation and Phenotyping from Esophageal Biopsies in Children with Eosinophilic Esophagitis: Pilot Study"
Poster Presentation at DDW 2013 in Orlando, Florida
15. Antoine Ménoret, Marina Fernandez, Francisco A. Sylvester, Jeffrey S. Hyams, Anthony T. Vella, and **Wael N. Sajej** "Proteomic Mining of Esophageal Lavage from Children with Eosinophilic Esophagitis"
Poster Presentation at DDW 2013 in Orlando, Florida
16. Francisco A. Sylvester, Jeffrey S. Hyams, **Wael N. Sajej**, Bella Zeisler, Donna Zeiter, Karan Emerick, Marina Fernandez; "A 12-hour bowel prep with polyethylene glycol 3350 is effective, well tolerated and safe in children"
Oral presentation presented by Dr. Sylvester at DDW 2012
17. Candi Schaufler, Trudy Lerer, Brendan T. Campbell, Richard Weiss, Jeffery L. Cohen, Donna Zeiter, **Wael N. Sajej**, Jeffrey S. Hyams; "Pre-operative Immunosuppression is Not Associated with Increased Post-Operative Complications Following Colectomy in Children With Ulcerative Colitis"
Oral presentation presented by C. Schaufler at DDW 2011: Control ID: 992899
18. J. Stumphy, D. Morgan, L. White, D. Zeiter, **W. Sajej**, F. Sylvester, J. Hyams; "Infliximab as primary therapy for Crohn's disease in children"
Poster: NASPGHAN Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA October 21-24
19. Raza A. Patel, Susan S. Baker, **Wael N. Sajej**, Robert D. Baker; "Two cases of H. Pylori Negative Peptic Ulcer Disease leading to Gastric Outlet Obstruction"
Poster: NASPGHAN Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA October 21-24
20. **Sajej, W. N., M.D.**; Knight III, Paul K., M.D., Ph.D.; Ye, Ling, Ph.D.; Baker, Robert D., M.D., Ph.D.; Baker, Susan S., M.D., Ph.D; "*CXCL-10 is a Potential Marker for Autoimmune Hepatitis*"; JPGN: 49 Suppl 1: E76; 2009
Poster: NASPGHAN meeting in National Harbor, MD – November 12-14, 2009
21. **Sajej, W.**; Patel, R.; Baker, R.; Baker S.; "*Terminal Ileal Disease and Positive ASCA IgA and IgG May be Predictors for Development of Phlegmons in Children with Crohn's Disease*"; JPGN: 49 Suppl 1: E62; 2009
Poster: NASPGHAN meeting in National Harbor, MD – November 12-14, 2009
22. Baker, Susan S., M.D., Ph.D.; Faden, Howard, M.D.; **Sajej, Wael N., M.D.**; Patel, Raza, M.D., MPH; Baker, Robert D., M.D., Ph.D.; "*Clostridium difficile Infection in Children Undergoing Colonoscopy*"
Poster: Poster Presentation at DDW Meeting in Chicago, IL – May 2009
Awarded Poster of Distinction

23. **Sajej, W.;** Patel, R.; Baker, R.; Tron, E.; Baker S.; *“Treatment with High Dose Proton Pump Inhibitors Helps Distinguish Eosinophilic Esophagitis from Non-Eosinophilic Esophagitis.”*
Poster: NASPGHAN meeting in San Diego, CA - November 2008.
Awarded Poster of Distinction
24. Lightfoot, T.; et. al., Baker, S.; **Sajej, W.;** *“IgG-RBC Sensitization Associated with Serine Proteases and an IgG Autoantibody in a Patient with Ulcerative Colitis”*
Poster: American Association of Blood Banks (AABB) Annual Meeting and TXPO 2008 in Montreal, QC on October 4 - 7, 2008
25. **Sajej, W.;** Tron, E.; Baker, R.; Baker, S.; *“One-Step Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrojejunostomy Tube Placement, A New Technique for Gastroenterologists: Case Report of 3 patients”.*
Poster: NASPGHAN meeting, Salt Lake City, UT - November 2007
26. **Sajej, W.;** Tron, E.; Baker, R.; Baker, S.; *“Endoclipping of Gastrocutaneous Fistula in a 7 Year Old Girl after Removal of Gastrostomy Tube: Case Report”.*
Poster: NASPGHAN meeting, Salt Lake City, UT - November 2007.
27. Vitale, E.; Yildirim-Tourner, C.; Subramanian, K.; **Sajej, W.;** Schwalb MN.; Cook, S; *“Candidate Gene Analysis for Multiple Sclerosis on 12p12 in a Large North American pedigree.”* European Journal of Human Genetics, May 2003, Vol 11, Supplement 1, Page 236.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

1. Philippine Pediatric Society of America
Invited Speaker: “Inflammatory Bowel Disease in Children”, Newark, NJ – October 15, 2016
2. Jensen, T., Foster C., Drinnan C., Mitchell A., **Sajej W.**, Finck, C.; “Patient Specific Esophageal Epithelial Cells for Esophageal Tissue Engineering”; World Congress of Pediatric Surgery. Washington, DC; October 2016
Awarded 2nd Place in Category for Presentation
3. Jensen, T., Foster C., Drinnan C., Mitchell A., **Sajej W.**, Finck, C; “Esophageal Tissue Engineering”; 2015 Connecticut Chapter of The American College of Surgeons; November 2015
4. “Pediatric GI Poop-Pourri”
Invited Speaker: Connecticut Academy of Family Physician’s (CAFP), Plantsville, CT – October 21, 2015
5. “The Saga: Differentiating Eosinophilic Esophagitis vs. Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease”
Invited Speaker: The E’lite Pediatric GI Congress, Dubai, UAE May 27-29, 2015
6. *“A Cytokine Signature from Esophageal Mucosa Differentiates Eosinophilic Esophagitis from Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease”*
Oral Presentation: NASPGHAN meeting in Chicago, IL – October 12, 2013
7. *“Prevalence of Esophagitis in Children with Celiac Disease”*
Oral Presentation: NASPGHAN meeting in San Diego, CA - November 2008.
8. *“High-Dose Acid Suppression Distinguishes Severe Reflux Esophagitis from Eosinophilic Esophagitis”* - Abstract #415
Oral Presentation: Digestive Diseases Week 2008 in San Diego, CA – May 2008

TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS

- Pediatrics Advanced Life Support Feb 2006-2017
- Infection Control and Barrier Precautions (NYSNA) August 2008
- CITI Course in The Protection of Human Research Subjects June 2007
- Human Participants Protections Education for Research Teams (NIH) July 2006
- Identification and Reporting of Child Abuse in New York State June 2006
- Pediatrics Advance Life Support 2012, 2014
- Basic Life Support 2012
- Neonatal Advance Life Support October 2003

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Association of Pediatric Program Directors 2010 – Current
- American Partnership for Eosinophilic Disorders 2013 – Current
- Connecticut State Medical Society 2010 – Current
- Hartford County Medical Association 2010 – Current
- American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE) 2008 - 2010
- American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) 2007 – Current
- American Association For The Study of Liver Disease (AASLD) 2006 – 2009
- North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition 2006 – Current
- American Academy of Pediatrics 2003 – 2009
- American Medical Association 2003 – 2005
- American Medical Students Association 1999 – 2001

SPOKEN LANGUAGES

- English
- Arabic – Fluent (native, spoken and written)