

# KRISTA WAGER, MD, MS

## Board-Certified Pediatrician

Pediatric Hospitalist

Inova L.J. Murphy Children's Hospital

Assistant Professor of Medical Education

University of Virginia School of Medicine

Falls Church, Virginia

c: 216.272.2986 | [wager.k@gmail.com](mailto:wager.k@gmail.com)



## EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Northwestern-trained, board-certified pediatrician and academic physician experienced at caring for acutely ill and medically complex hospitalized children across pediatric hospital medicine, neonatal intensive care, and pediatric intensive care at nationally recognized

University of Virginia School of Medicine faculty who combines rigorous scientific training, evidence-based clinical practice, and thoughtful medical decision-making to provide exceptional patient care while educating residents, medical students, and advanced practice providers. An accomplished physician educator and communicator, recognized for translating complex medical concepts into clear, practical guidance for learners, colleagues, patients, and families.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Pediatric Hospitalist

**Inova L.J. Murphy Children's Hospital** | Falls Church, Virginia

**2022–Present**

Provide inpatient care on the Acute Care Unit and Intermediate Care Unit of a high-volume tertiary children's hospital, caring for infants, children, and adolescents with both common and medically complex acute illnesses.

Supervising physician responsible for clinical management, learner education, and interdisciplinary coordination of hospitalized pediatric patients. Supervise advanced practice providers, pediatric residents, and medical students while emphasizing evidence-based clinical decision-making, collaborative practice, and family-centered care.

Assistant Professor of Medical Education at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, providing bedside teaching, clinical supervision, and mentorship for medical students and pediatric residents.

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### Attending Physician, Pediatric Hospital Medicine

#### Instructor of Pediatrics

**Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago**

**Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine** | Chicago, Illinois **2020–2022**

Provided pediatric hospital medicine services across multiple clinical environments, including immediate, acute, intermediate (IMC), and critical care units (NICU/PICU).

Managed medically complex infants and children requiring varying levels of inpatient and critical care while collaborating with pediatric subspecialists and multidisciplinary teams.

### Scientific Research Experience

#### Chemist

**Merck Research Laboratories** | Boston, Massachusetts

**2012–2013**

Contributed to medicinal chemistry and pharmaceutical research supporting drug discovery through synthetic organic chemistry and lead compound development.

#### Research Associate / Intern

**2009–2012**

**Merck Research Laboratories**

**Millennium Pharmaceuticals**

Conducted medicinal chemistry research resulting in multiple peer-reviewed scientific publications.

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS & MEDICAL EDUCATION

#### Assistant Professor of Medical Education

**University of Virginia School of Medicine** | **2022–Present**

Provide clinical education for medical students and pediatric residents through bedside teaching, clinical supervision, and case-based instruction during inpatient pediatric rotations. Emphasize evidence-based clinical reasoning, patient-centered care, interdisciplinary collaboration, and professional development.

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## Educational Leadership

Educational focus includes:

- *Clinical reasoning and diagnostic decision-making*
- *Evidence-based pediatric hospital medicine*
- *Bedside teaching*
- *Interprofessional communication*
- *Learner assessment and constructive feedback*
- *Professionalism and team-based patient care*

## EDUCATION & POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

### Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

#### Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

**Pediatric Residency** 2017–2020  
Chicago, Illinois

#### Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

**Doctor of Medicine** 2013–2017  
Chicago, Illinois

#### Northeastern University

**Master of Science, Chemistry** 2011–2012  
*Summa Cum Laude*  
Boston, Massachusetts

#### Northeastern University

**Bachelor of Science, Chemistry** 2007–2011  
*Summa Cum Laude*  
Boston, Massachusetts

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## SCHOLARSHIP & SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS

### Scientific Foundation

Graduate training in chemistry followed by pharmaceutical research experience at Merck Research Laboratories and Millennium Pharmaceuticals provided a strong foundation in scientific methodology, critical appraisal of medical literature, and translational biomedical research prior to entering medicine.

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Blackburn C, Barrett C, Brunson M, Chin J, England D, Garcia K, Gigstad K, Gould A, Gutierrez J, Hoar K, Rowland RS, Tsu C, Ringeling J, **Wager K**, Xu H. Histone Deacetylase Inhibitors Derived from 1,2,3,4-Tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine and Related Heterocycles Selective for the HDAC6 Isoform. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2014;24(23):5450-5454.
- **Wager KM**. *Molecular Approaches for Chemotherapeutic Targeting*. Boston, MA: Masters Thesis in Chemistry, Northeastern University; 2012.
- **Wager KM**, Jones G. The Forward Path for Biopharmaceuticals and Biosimilars. 2012;1(4):297-317.
- **Wager KM**, Daniels MH. Palladium-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Benzyl Thioacetates and Aryl Halides. *Org. Lett.* 2011;13(15):4052-4055.
- **Wager KM**, Jones G. Radio-Iodination Methods for the Production of SPECT Imaging Agents. *Curr Radiopharm.* 2010;3(1):37-45. Kallmerten AE, Alexander A, **Wager KM**, Jones GB. Microwave Accelerated Labeling Methods in the Synthesis of Radioligands for Positron Emission Tomography Imaging. *Curr Radiopharm.* 2011;4(4):343-354.
- LaBeaume P, **Wager K**, Falcone D, et al. Synthesis, Functionalization and Photo-Bergman Chemistry of Eneidyne Bioconjugates. *Bioorg Med Chem.* 2009;17(17):6292-6300.

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### Selected Presentations

- **Continuity Clinic Quality Improvement Lectures;** 2017 – 2020 Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago Outpatient Center. Various topics: Newborn Exam, Discipline, Formula Feeding, Water Safety, Obesity
- **Wager K.** Words are Hard: Language Development in Children Cooper Talk. Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago; September 12, 2019; Chicago, IL
- Feister J, Nickels M, **Wager K.** Improved Rate of Tuberculosis (TB) Screening Through the Implementation of a Waiting Room Screening Questionnaire. Research Scholar's Day.
- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago; May 15, 2019; Chicago, IL  
**Wager K.** Sick Burns Cooper Talk. Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago; April 3, 2019; Chicago, IL
- Chu S, Feister J, Flahive C, Marszal L, Nickels M, Sul C, Tanz R, **Wager K**, York D. Improving Efficiency in Resident Continuity Clinic. Research Scholar's Day. Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago; May 16, 2018; Chicago, IL
- **Wager K**, Chesser J, Day R, Marquez A, Corey S. CXCL4, CXCL12, CXCL13, OPG, and CALR as disease markers in myelofibrosis. Feinberg School of Medicine AOSC Oral Presentation; Jan. 9, 2015; Chicago, IL.
- Bortoletto P, Bandi K, **Wager K.** Save the Girl Child Campaign: Goals and Successes. Feinberg School of Medicine Global Health Day; Sept. 10, 2014; Chicago, IL.
- **Wager KM**, Daniels MH. Novel Palladium-Catalyzed Cross Coupling of Acyl Protected Thiols and Aryl Halides. American Chemical Society National Meeting; March 27, 2011; Anaheim, CA.
- **Wager K**, LaBeaume P, Holewa C, Kallmerten AE, Jones GB. Cytotoxic Eneidyne Bioconjugates Activated by UV Irradiation. American Chemical Society National Meeting; Aug. 25, 2010; Boston, MA.
- **Wager K**, LaBeaume P, Falcone D, Li J, Torchilin V, Castro C, Holewa C, Kallmerten AE, Jones GB. Synthesis, Functionalization and Photo-Bergman Chemistry of Eneidyne Bioconjugates. American Chemical Society National Meeting; Mar. 24, 2010; San Francisco, CA.
- Ng P, **Wager KM**, Jones EV, Kallmerten AE. Microwave Expedited Fluorodenitrations as a Route to Novel PET Imaging Agents. American Chemical Society Regional Meeting; June 30, 2008; Burlington, VT.

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### Clinical & Translational Research

Clinical scholarship has included independent research in pediatric bleeding risk prediction following cardiopulmonary bypass and quality improvement initiatives to improve tuberculosis screening within resident continuity clinics.

Research experience includes:

- Pediatric quality improvement
- Pediatric hematology
- Translational clinical research
- Medicinal chemistry
- Drug discovery

### BOARD CERTIFICATION

#### American Board of Pediatrics

Board Certified in General Pediatrics, *Certified 2020*

### MEDICAL LICENSURE

**Virginia**; previously Maryland and Illinois (inactive due to provider preference)

### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)
- Basic Life Support (BLS)

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## HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

**Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society**

**Exemplary Model of Professionalism Award**, McGaw Medical Center

**Levin Family Merit Scholarship**, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

**Goldwater National Research Scholar**

## LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Professional interests include interdisciplinary collaboration, physician education, quality improvement, and mentorship. Selected leadership and service activities include:

- Residency Interviewer
- Medical Student Admissions Interviewer
- Physician–Nurse Task Force
- Education Centered Medical Home Chief Medical Student
- President, Community-Based Clinically Oriented Workshops

## PERTINENT PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- ✓ Board-Certified Pediatrician
- ✓ Assistant Professor of Medical Education, University of Virginia School of Medicine
- ✓ Pediatric Hospitalist
- ✓ Extensive experience supervising medical students, residents, and advanced practice providers
- ✓ Broad inpatient experience including Immediate Care, Acute Care, Intermediate Care, PICU, and NICU
- ✓ Peer-reviewed scientific publications
- ✓ Active clinical practice in tertiary pediatric hospital medicine