

Peter J. Smith, MD, MA

AHK Chief Medical Officer

E: psmith2@peds.bsd.uchicago.edu



Dr. Smith is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Chicago. He is board certified in two subspecialties of pediatrics, Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NDD) and Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP). Dr. Smith also has master's degree in Ethics and is a faculty member of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago. Dr. Smith's direct clinical service has included inpatient care (both at AHK and he is former Chief of the Medical Staff at La Rabida Children's Hospital); work in specialty schools (he is Medical Director at the Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School and the Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Education); and outpatient clinics (at Comer Children's Hospital, at Easter Seals of DuPage and Fox Valley, and at the Erikson Institute's Center for Children and Families).

Dr. Smith has served on multiple Committees of the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (ICAAP) related to children with complex medical concerns, and he chaired one of these committees, the Committee on Children with Disabilities.

Nationally, Dr. Smith serves as the elected Chair of the Executive Committee of the Section of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics (SODBP) for the national AAP. He previously served on the Executive Committee for the Council on Children with Disabilities (COCWD) for the national AAP (as a liaison from the SODBP). In addition, he formerly was an elected member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD).

Dr. Smith started and directed the first Fellowship Program in Illinois in DBP and directs the pediatric residency rotation in DBP at the University of Chicago.

Specific to AHK, he started and currently helps to lead the educational programs, including rotations for medical students, residents, and fellows. He also helped to start and currently helps to lead a year-long educational program for Nurse Practitioners who want to gain specialized training in DBP and children with complex medical needs.

Dr. Smith's scholarship has focused upon the ethics of care for children with special needs as well as the training of doctors to care for this growing population. He has authored multiple articles in scientific journals and chapters in the textbooks used by specialists in this field. Dr. Smith is a frequent presenter at the local, regional, and national scientific meetings as well as at formal educational programs for doctors.

Dr. Smith is the proud father of four children, an amateur but enthusiastic bonsai gardener, and a reluctant member of a morning exercise group. He is graced to be married to his best friend.