Nemours Appoints Director of Swank Autism Center

Expects to enhance, coordinate services for children, teens with autism spectrum disorder

Diane Treadwell-Deering, MD

Nemours is pleased to welcome Diane Treadwell-Deering, MD, as Director of the Swank Autism Center at the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. In this role, Dr. Treadwell-Deering, a child and adolescent psychiatrist, will oversee the development of a comprehensive center of excellence for the evaluation and treatment of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

A cum laude graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Treadwell-Deering earned her medical degree at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. She served her general psychiatry residency as well as her fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston.

Dr. Treadwell-Deering comes to Nemours from the Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital, where she was associate professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Pediatrics and the Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy. There, she provided direct clinical care and supervised the training of neurodevelopmental and behavioral pediatric fellows, child and adolescent psychiatry residents, pediatric residents and medical students. Her most recent clinical duties at Texas Children's were focused on the evaluation and care of patients in the Autism Center and the Fragile X Clinic.

Dr. Treadwell-Deering is certified in psychiatry and child psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. She is a member of the American Psychiatric Association, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the Association for Behavior Analysis International. Dr. Treadwell-Deering actively publishes and presents. Her clinical and research interests include autism spectrum disorder, and the behavioral/cognitive aspects of some genetic disorders, including Fragile X syndrome.

Dr. Treadwell-Deering said of her recruitment that it was the right opportunity at the right time in her career. She noted that other personnel critical to the development of the autism center are on-boarding this fall, and that the remodeling and expansion of physical space (at Rockland Center Two) is underway. She stated: "We are working toward offering improved access and a model of assessment and care that is patient and family-focused as well as autism-friendly."

Nemours is an internationally recognized children's health system that owns and operates the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del., and Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando, Fla., along with outpatient facilities in six states, delivering pediatric primary, specialty and urgent care. Nemours also powers the world's most-visited website for information on the health of children and teens, KidsHealth.org and offers on-demand, online video patient visits through Nemours CareConnect.

Established as The Nemours Foundation through the legacy and philanthropy of Alfred I. duPont, Nemours provides pediatric clinical care, research, education, advocacy, and prevention programs to families in the communities it serves.

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