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Dear Colleague:

The members of the Division of Pediatric Critical Care, Doernbecher Children's Hospital, Oregon Health Sciences University, invite you to join us for the 12th Annual Pediatric Critical Care Colloquium in Portland, OR, September 22-26, 1999. The theme of the meeting is "Computers in Critical Care", and we have invited some of the leaders in computer-related areas to be featured speakers and panelists. We are also having a more clinically oriented session on cutting-edge therapies for pediatric ARDS. And, as usual at the PCCC, the majority of the meeting will be dedicated to presenting the latest scientific information in our field in both oral and poster abstract sessions.

*This year we will be taking a slightly different approach to the Colloquium in a number of areas. First, we have invited J. Michael Dean, MD, MBA, FAAP, FCCM to be our featured Guest Speaker at the Banquet to be held on the second night, Thursday, Sept. 23rd. We look forward to Dr. Dean's presentation and insights on "The State of Pediatric Critical Care in the New Millennium." Second, we have asked our colleagues from Advanced Practice Nursing to join us throughout the meeting and become active participants in the plenary sessions, abstract presentations, and social events. The APNs will also have a separate breakout session on Friday, Sept. 24th to discuss Challenging and Controversial Cases in Advanced Practice Nursing. Third, we have arranged for the top 50 scientific abstracts to be published in **Clinical Intensive Care**, a respected world wide journal of critical care medicine. This is the first time that the abstracts from the PCCC will be published. In addition, we are giving awards to the top abstracts in the areas of Basic Science, Clinical, In-Training, and Nursing. As a result, we expect the quality and quantity of the scientific presentations to be outstanding. Finally, we have arranged a number of informal social gatherings in keeping with the spirit of the Colloquium and the Pacific Northwest. On Friday afternoon, Sept. 24th, there is a tour of Oregon wineries complete with gourmet appetizers, snacks, and cheeses. Oregon makes some of the best wines in the world and there are many wineries near Portland in the beautiful Oregon countryside. It should be a fun trip. Then, on Saturday evening, Sept. 25th, we will host a PICU Jeopardy Game at McNemamin's Brewpub in Portland, pitting your favorite intensivists from different parts of the country against one another in a contest of medical knowledge, wits, and trivia.*

Portland is a great city with much to offer in terms of restaurants, museums, parks, and other attractions. The weather in September is almost always nice with temperatures in the 70's and no rain. Doernbecher Children's Hospital is excited to be hosting this year's PCCC, and we hope to see you in September. We look forward to a great meeting.

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