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**Colin’s Kids Inc., Selects Dr. Kanwai Farooqi, Dr. Jenna Piccininni and Dr. Joyce Woo**

 **as 2018 Research Awardees**

NEW YORK, October 30, 2018 — Colin’s Kids has honored Kanwal Farooqi, MD, Jenna Piccininni, MD and Joyce Woo, MD, of Columbia University Medical Center, with research grants toward their research in pediatric cardiology. Dr. Farooqi is the recipient of the $10,000 Colin Molloy Research Award and Drs. Piccininni and Woo are each recipients of the $5,000 Andrew King Research Award.

The awards, presented annually, were established to support the Colin’s Kids’ mission of providing critical funding to advance medical research related to the diagnosis, life-improving treatment, prevention and cure of congenital heart defects.

Kelly Molloy, David King and Nancy King founded Colin’s Kids in 2011. Their children, Colin Molloy and Andrew King, were born with congenital heart defects and subsequently were treated in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York-Presbyterian. While there, the families became each other’s support system and built a lasting friendship in the face of unforeseen adversity.

Andrew survived a transposition of the great arteries, in part due to an arterial switch procedure. Unfortunately, Colin, diagnosed with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, passed away due to surgical complications. He was only 47 days old. Even though Colin did not survive, he lives on through Colin’s Kids and the work it continues to do in an effort to better the lives of children and spare the heartache that so many families, like the Molloy’s, are all too familiar with.

“It is a privilege to celebrate the life of Colin in such an impactful way,” said Molloy. “I believe that supporting research that can ultimately change the course of a child and their loved one’s lives is the greatest way to honor him.”

Adds Nancy King, “Colin was Andrew’s first friend. He spent most of his life right next to my son. I know that he is still there, as his guardian angel, watching over him.”

The recipients of these awards are grateful for the continued support of Colin’s Kids and its commitment to the Division of Pediatric Cardiology at Columbia University Medical Center.

Dr. Farooqi, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Columbia University Medical Center, focuses her research on the use of 3D printed and digital cardiac models to improve care for patients with congenital heart disease. Dr. Farooqi also researches the use of advanced imaging technologies, including 3D printing and virtual reality, for education of patients, families and trainees. Dr. Farooqi recently collaborated with other leaders in the field to publish a book entitled “Rapid Prototyping in Cardiac Disease: 3D Printing the Heart.” She has organized a multicenter study assessing the utility of 3D printed models for preoperative planning of VAD placement in patients with congenital heart

disease and heart failure. An expert in her field of advanced imaging, she was recruited to help build the 3D printing program at CUMC.

Dr. Piccininni, Second Year Fellow in the Department of Pediatrics at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons, is examining right ventricular (RV) strain in patients with ductal dependent tetralogy of Fallot. These patients represent a unique subset of tetralogy of Fallot requiring surgical intervention in the neonatal period. The traditional surgical approach has been the creation of an aortic-to-pulmonary shunt as a palliative measure, delaying complete repair for several months. More recently, neonatal complete repair has been employed at multiple institutions, thereby preventing a second surgical intervention, and resulting in less morbidity with comparable mortality. However the effect of each approach on RV function has not been investigated. Her multicenter retrospective study examines the short- and mid-term RV strain in ductal-dependent tetralogy of Fallot as it relates to surgical approach and the trajectory these patient’s RV strain over time.

Dr. Woo, Postdoctoral Clinical Fellow in the Department of Pediatrics at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons, focuses on regionalization, or the study of how health systems can better organize to deliver specific types of care. Specifically, she is interested in mechanisms, barriers, and potential consequences associated with the regionalization of congenital heart disease (CHD) care. Dr. Woo is currently studying the Physician Payment Sunshine Act (PPSA), which was passed as part of the Affordable Care Act to require private companies to disclose any payments made to physicians or teaching hospitals. While the PPSA provides transparency regarding possible conflicts of interest, it also has the potential to affect referral patterns for CHD care, which could in turn affect patient outcomes. Joyce is incredibly grateful for the Andrew King award from Colin's Kids Inc, which will enable her to link big data to help better understand the factors that determine where CHD patients can go for care.

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Columbia University Medical Center provides international leadership in basic, pre-clinical and clinical research, in medical and health sciences education, and in patient care. The medical center trains future leaders and includes the dedicated work of many physicians, scientists, public health professionals, dentists, and nurses at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Mailman School of Public Health, the College of Dental Medicine, the School of Nursing, the biomedical departments of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and allied research centers and institutions. Established in 1767, Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons was the first institution in the country to grant the M.D. degree and is among the most selective medical schools in the country. Columbia University Medical Center is home to the largest medical research enterprise in New York City and State and one of the largest in the United States.