

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Melanie Faye Rak, M.D.**

### **EDUCATION:**

Undergraduate: Northwestern University College of Arts and Sciences,  
1989-1992

Graduate: Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine  
1992-1996

Postdoctoral: Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Resident, Pediatrics 1996-2001

University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Resident, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 1996-2001

### **Board Certification:**

American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, 2003, # 7385,  
Recertified 2013

American Board of Pediatrics, 2003, # 079290, Recertified 2013

American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Pediatric  
Rehabilitation Medicine subspecialty, 2005, #79, Recertified 2013

### **Licensure:**

Illinois # 036-105812

Ohio # 35-07-6669-R

**CURRENT FACULTY RANK:** Associate Professor  
Department of Pediatrics  
Northeast Ohio Medical University  
Rootstown, Ohio

**PRIOR FACULTY RANKS:**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Department of Pediatrics  
Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, Illinois

Instructor  
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, Illinois

Instructor  
Department of Pediatrics  
Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, Illinois

**CURRENT HOSPITAL:**

Akron Children's Hospital  
Akron, Ohio  
October 2018-present

**PRIOR HOSPITALS:**

Northwestern Memorial Hospital  
Associate Physician  
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Chicago, Illinois  
2008- February 2018

Shriners Hospital  
Pediatrics  
Chicago, Illinois  
Consulting Physician 2005-2008  
Honorary Physician 2008- February 2018

John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County  
Consulting Physician  
Pediatrics  
Chicago, Illinois  
2004-February 2018

Children's Memorial Hospital/ Lurie Childrens Hospital  
Consulting Physician  
Chicago, Illinois  
2004- February 2018

Shirley Ryan AbilityLab  
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago  
Pediatric and Adolescent Program  
Attending Physician  
Chicago, Illinois  
2002- February 2018

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

- American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine,  
1999-present
- American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation,  
1998-present
- American Academy of Pediatrics, 1996-present

**TEACHING:**

Pediatric Rehabilitation Fellowship Director  
August 2017- February 2018

Department of Pediatrics  
John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County  
Chicago, Illinois  
2004- February 2018

Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation  
Loyola University Medical Center  
Maywood, Illinois

2002-2004

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine  
Chicago, Illinois

2002- February 2018

Tutor for Profession of Medicine M2 ethics class 2005-2012

Teaching on rounds

Informal lectures to rotating PM&R residents and medical students

Northwestern and RIC lectures:

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling  
Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, April  
2018.

“Genetic and Congenital Disorders in Pediatric Rehabilitation” Resident  
Lecture, PM&R Department, Shirley Ryan AbilityLab (formerly the  
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago), November 2017.

“Pediatric Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury” Resident Lecture, PM & R  
Department, Shirley Ryan AbilityLab (formerly the Rehabilitation Institute of  
Chicago), July 2017.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling  
Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, April  
2017.

“Pediatric Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury” Resident Lecture, PM & R  
Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, August 2016.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling  
Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, May  
2016.

“School and Guardianship Issues” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, September 2013.

“Pediatric Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, August 2013.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, May 2013.

“Pediatric Brain Injury and Spinal Cord Injury” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, September 2012.

“School and Guardianship Issues” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, September 2012.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, May 2012.

“Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation” lecture to Nclude, Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine Student group, November 2011.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, May 2011.

“Pediatric Rehabilitation” lecture to Nclude, Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine Student group, August 2010.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Student Lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, May 2010.

“Pediatric Rehabilitation” Student Lecture, Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine Patient Perspectives Program, March 2010.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Medical Student Lecture, PM&R

Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, February 2010 (recurring).

“Eugenics and Euthanasia” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, October 2009.

“Muscular Dystrophies and Spinal Muscular Atrophy in Children” Resident Lecture, PM&R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, February 2008.

“Traumatic Brain and Spinal Cord Injuries in Children” Resident Lecture, PM&R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, June 2007.

“Muscular Dystrophies and Spinal Muscular Atrophy in Children” Resident Lecture, PM&R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, February 2007.

“Pediatric Trauma” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, June 2006.

“Muscular Dystrophies and Spinal Muscular Atrophy” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, February 2006.

Guest speaker, Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine Ethics and Values Curriculum I class, November 2005.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Extern Lecture, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, June 2005.

“Medical Management of Cerebral Palsy” Extern Lecture, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, June 2005.

“Cerebral Palsy” Orthotic Student Lecture, Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, April 2005.

“Muscular Dystrophies and Spinal Muscular Atrophy” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, April 2005.

## Research Experience:

- 2016 Pediatric Rehabilitation, Shirley Ryan AbilityLab  
Worked with Jacqueline Baron, extern, and Deb Gaebler on project:  
“Examining the influence of cumulative social  
Risk on inpatient pediatric clinical rehabilitation outcomes.”
- 2015-2017 Pediatric Rehabilitation, Shirley Ryan AbilityLab  
Brendan Frainey, Beverley Tann, Susan P Berger, Melanie Rak, Deborah  
Gaebler-Spira. “Bullying in Children and Adolescents with Cerebral Palsy and  
Other Physical Disabilities.” Submitted to Developmental Medicine and Child  
Neurology, rejected May 2017.
- 2010-present Member of planning team for Beyond Brittle Bones: The Osteogenesis  
Imperfecta Adult Natural History Initiative, PI: Laura L. Tosi, MD; Co-PI:  
Matthew E. Oetgen, MD.
- 2005 Pediatric Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago  
Julie Hoang, M.D., Deborah Gaebler-Spira, M.D., Teresa Savage, PhD,  
RN, and Melanie Rak, M.D.  
“Process of care: A comparison of 2 outpatient pediatric therapy  
programs.” Accepted for poster presentation for AAPMR national  
conference, November 2006.
- 2000 Pediatric Rehabilitation, Children’s Hospital Medical Center  
Mentors: Mary McMahan, M.D. and Amy Bailes, PT  
“Weight gain after intrathecal baclofen therapy in underweight  
children with cerebral palsy.” Accepted for poster presentation at the  
2001 Annual Assembly of the American Academy of Physical  
Medicine and Rehabilitation (event cancelled).

## SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES:

**National Organization:** Planning committee for Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation  
12<sup>th</sup> Scientific Meeting, April 2012:  
Assessing the Impact of Osteogenesis Imperfecta on Nonskeletal  
Systems  
PI: Laura L. Tosi, MD

PCORI Advisory Board, Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation,  
August 2019-present.

**Intercampus Collaboration:**

Invited member, Intercampus Disability and Inclusion Task Force  
As part of this cross-campus task force, I was working to improve  
accessibility for and awareness of people with disabilities.

**Publications:**

Journal Articles:

Impaired physical function following pediatric liver transplantation.  
Feldman AG, Neighbors K, Mukherjee S, Rak M, Varni JW, Alonso EM.  
Liver Transplantation. 2016 Apr; 22 (4): 495-504.

Initial report of the osteogenesis imperfect adult natural history initiative. Tosi LL,  
Oetgen ME, Floor MK, Huber MB, Kennelly AM, McCarter RJ, Rak MF, Simmonds BJ,  
Simpson MD, Tucker CA, McKiernan FE. Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases. 2015 Nov  
14; 10:146.

Chapters:

Rak M: Osteogenesis Imperfects. Pediatrics (Rehabilitation Medicine Quick Reference):  
2010.

Murphy K P, Wunderlich CA, Pico EL, Driscoll SW, Moberg-Wolff E, Rak M, Nelson  
MR: Orthopedics and Musculoskeletal Conditions. Pediatric Rehabilitation: Principles  
and Practice - 4<sup>th</sup> Edition: 2009.

Rak, MF: "Forging the way for physicians with disabilities." Resourceful Woman 1994:  
3: 1,6.

Newsletter:

Rak, MF: "That thing." Guest Column, Diversity and Inclusion Matters, 2017 Spring.

Rak, MF: "I don't care if it's a boy or a girl, as long as it's healthy." Pathway to  
Medicine, Diversity and Inclusion Matters, 2017 Spring.



## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### Invited Lectures:

“Social Perspectives of Disability,” Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling Student lecture, Center for Genetic Medicine, Northwestern University, May 2019.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta,” Resident Lecture, Orthopedic Department, Loyola, May 2018.

Panelist, 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation Scientific Meeting, “Patient Perspectives on Outcome Measures, April 2018.

Panelist, Schwartz Rounds, “Mining the ADA: What We’ve Learned about Microaggressions, Insults and Injuries,” Northwestern Memorial Hospital, July 2017.

Disability Awareness, St Alphonsus Boy Scout Pack 3889, Chicago, February 2017.

“Introduction to Pediatric Rehabilitation,” Department of Pediatrics, University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria, December 2016.

“Disability From a Social Perspective,” Schweitzer Fellows Program, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, June 2016.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta,” Resident Lecture, Orthopedic Department, Loyola, May 2016.

“Disability From a Social Perspective,” Schweitzer Fellows Program, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, June 2013.

“Disability From a Social Perspective,” Resident Lecture, Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital, February 2013.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta,” Resident Lecture, Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital, February 2013.

“OI Rehabilitation,” Translational Care in OI: Advances in

Biology, Technology and Clinical Practice conference, Shriners Hospital, Chicago, September 2010.

“Introduction to Pediatric Rehabilitation,” Resident Lecture, Pediatrics Department, Stroger Hospital, March 2010.

“Pediatric Rehabilitation,” Health and Disabilities Leadership Institute, American Medical Student Association, August 2009.

“Cerebral Palsy,” Medical Advances in Early Education II course, Stroger Hospital, April 2008.

“Pediatric Spinal Cord Injuries,” Pediatric Critical Care Course for nurses, Stroger Hospital, March 2008.

Panelist, “The Cutting Edge: Healthcare Careers for Youth with Disabilities,” 2007 National Youth Development Symposium, December 2007.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta: Signs and Classification” American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation National Conference, September 2007.

“Pediatric Rehabilitation” lecture, Child and Family Connections inservice, August 2007.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta Pearls,” American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation National Conference, November 2006.

“Pediatric Spinal Cord Injuries,” Pediatric Critical Care Course for nurses, Stroger Hospital, October 2006.

Panelist, “Careers available to people with disabilities in the healthcare industry,” State of Illinois Annual Transition Conference, October 2006.

“Eugenics and Euthanasia” PM & R Resident Lecture, Schwab Rehab Hospital, October 2006.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Lecture, The Chicago Area Schweitzer

Fellows Program, Chicago, August 2006.

“Growing up with OI and becoming a doctor” Teen Lecture, Osteogenesis Imperfecta National Conference, Omaha, July 2006.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, University of Cincinnati, May 2006.

“Eugenics and Euthanasia in Nazi Germany” Resident Lecture, PM & R Department, University of Cincinnati, May 2006.

“Disability and Pediatric Rehabilitation” Grand Rounds, Pediatrics Department, Saint Anthony Hospital, May 2006.

“Osteogenesis Imperfecta” Resident Lecture, Pediatrics Department, John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County, April 2006.

“Disability from a Social Perspective” Lecture, American Medical Student Association’s Disabilities Awareness Week, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine, February 2006.

“Rehabilitation of Children with Cerebral Palsy” Resident Lecture, Pediatrics Department, John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County, January 2006.

Panelist, “Genetics,” Patient Centered Medicine 3, Loyola University’s Stritch School of Medicine, January 2006.

“Medical Management of Cerebral Palsy,” CP Awareness Workshop, Governor’s State University, March 2005.

Panelist, “Disability Across the Lifespan Part 2,” Behavior and Development Course, Loyola University’s Stritch School of Medicine, March 2005.

**Community Service:**

Equip for Equality Brain Injury Advisory Board Member, 2005- 2018.

Brain Injury Association of Illinois Board Member, 2012- 2018.