Feliz joins surgery team

Alex Feliz, MD, is Le Bonheur’s newest pediatric general surgeon. Feliz comes to Memphis from the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Las Vegas, where he served as assistant program director for the Department of Surgery. He studied at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City and now serves as clinical assistant professor of Surgery at The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Medicine.
Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital is host to numerous research activities being conducted under the auspices of the Children’s Foundation Research Institute (CFRI). The CFRI has a major emphasis on supporting young pediatric investigators. In addition to funds and infrastructure, the CFRI provides a mentoring program, guaranteed protected research time, laboratory space and access to all CFRI common equipment, resources and use of the CFRI Pediatric Clinical Research Unit (PCRU).

In 2011, Le Bonheur Trauma Services joined a research consortium (ATOMAC) of Level 1 ACS verified Pediatric Trauma Centers. The ATOMAC group is the combined forces of the following centers:
- University of Oklahoma (Oklahoma City)
- Arkansas Children’s Hospital (Little Rock, Ark.)
- Dell Children’s Hospital (Austin, Texas)
- Children’s Medical Center (Dallas)
- Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital (Memphis, Tenn.)
- Phoenix Children’s Hospital (Phoenix)

The mission of ATOMAC is to share resources and talent for the development of outstanding collaborative pediatric trauma research.

General Surgery and Trauma Services at Le Bonheur have a research nurse coordinator designated to support the research activities of the department’s investigators.

The following studies are ATOMAC projects that have been conducted and completed at Le Bonheur:
- An Internal Educational Program (IEP) for Pediatric Trauma
- Association between mechanism of injury and duodenal transection in pediatric trauma patients under age five. (The study was accepted for an oral presentation at the 71st AAST Annual Meeting in Kauai, Hawaii.)

The following two studies are IRB approved and ongoing:
- Pediatric Trauma Team Activation (TTA) due to Motor Vehicle Crashes: Appropriately vs. Inappropriately Restrained
- A Retrospective Review of (BCVI) Blunt Cerebral Vascular injuries

In addition, the trauma research at Le Bonheur has the following studies in the pipeline:
- Prospective study of nonoperative management of blunt abdominal trauma using hemodynamic based algorithm
- Masimo Pronto Device - clinical accuracy study in the pediatric trauma setting