

Secretary



Candidate: Rana Alissa, MD, FAAP, FCAAP

Primary City of Practice: Jacksonville, Florida

Statement of Interest/Bio:

Dr. Alissa is the current Co-Chair of the Membership Committee of FCAAP. She graduated with an M.D. degree from the University of Damascus/ Syria. She completed her residency at the University of Florida in Jacksonville (UF JAX). Since graduating from residency Dr. Alissa has been working as a pediatric hospitalist at UF JAX focusing on newborn population. She is scheduled to sit for the Pediatric Hospital Medicine Board this winter. She served as the medical director of the newborn nursery for 5 years until 2020. During that time, Dr. Alissa brought oral glucose gel to the UF JAX pharmacy to manage neonatal hypoglycemia and she established the transition bed for infants who are having difficulty transitioning after birth, which decreased transferring these infants to the neonatal intensive care unit. She also created an anticipatory guidance video in both English and Spanish languages for the new parents to be educated regarding the common neonatal findings. All the above in addition to the tremendous hard work in educating the new mothers about the importance of breastfeeding, lead to three-fold increase in the exclusive breastfeeding rates in the newborn nursery at UF JAX under Dr. Alissa's leadership. She just completed training in Medical Informatics and she is eligible to sit for the Medical Informatics Board. Dr. Alissa is active in research and she has numerous publications. She was just promoted to the rank of Associate Professor at UF JAX.

Dr. Alissa is the newborn nursery preceptor for UF medical students, UF physician assistant students, Mayo Clinic medical students, family medicine residents of the Naval hospital in Jacksonville and family medicine residents of the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, in addition to the pediatric residents of her own program at UF JAX. As a teacher, she earned numerous awards including Excellence Student Teacher Award and Most Outstanding Pediatric Attending Award in addition to yearly Exemplary Teacher Award.

Dr. Alissa has been involved with FCAAP since she was a pediatric resident, and she subsequently served on the membership committee of FCAAP since 2018 as Co-Chair. In 2020 she became a CATCH Grant facilitator and in 2021 she attended the 2021 AAP Advocacy Conference which primarily focused on Bill H.R.2347- Strengthening the vaccines for Children Program Act of 2021. In February 2022, Dr. Alissa was the Mentor Spotlight in FCAAP newsletter and in the spring of 2022 she was the FCAAP Wellness Ambassador.

As the Secretary of FCAAP Dr. Alissa understands all her duties including but not limited to being fully available to assist the President, the Vice President and the Immediate Vice president in the performance of their duties. She is planning to be active in gun control laws, in improving the management of children's mental illness and improving children's vaccination rates across our state.