

# Pediatrics, Pediatric Gastroenterology & Nutrition

**March 23-25, 2017 Orlando, USA****Follow up with your Pediatrician- Ensuring continuity of care from the emergency department****AtNena Luster-Tucker**

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Initially founded to serve those with unexpected, life-threatening illnesses, emergency departments across the country, now care for a variety of patients including those without urgent medical conditions. With doors that never close and providers who administer care without regard to ability to pay, the emergency department has become the "safety net" of medicine. This "safety net" is especially important for vulnerable populations such as pediatrics. In addition to traditional emergency conditions, pediatric patients often have limited communication skills, lack of established immunity, minimal health histories, and are at the mercy of their caregivers. The combination of these factors increase the risk for developing unexpected health care needs and the emergency department is the only solution that is available whenever a problem occurs. Emergency departments provide critical healthcare services but they do not provide the same degree of comprehensiveness as primary care providers. Patients and caregivers may believe care is complete when they leave the emergency department but in reality, this is where care actually begins. It is the responsibility of providers, nurses, case managers, educators, and all members of the interdisciplinary team to ensure appropriate follow up care and continuity following an emergency department encounter. To facilitate this practice amongst healthcare practitioners, this session will discuss the history of the emergency department, standard emergency department resources, and standards of care, pediatric preventative health, legal requirements and best practices.

**Biography**

AtNena Luster-Tucker is an educator with over 16 years of experience in nursing. Since beginning of her nursing career as a LPN, she has earned her BSN, MSN with a Family Nurse Practitioner concentration, post-Master's certificate in nursing education, DNP and MBA. She has published a number of journal articles, authored textbook chapters and presented both nationally and internationally. Currently, she is an Assistant Nursing Professor at South-eastern Louisiana University and the interim Director of the university's centre for Faculty Excellence. Her clinical practice is as a Nurse Practitioner in an inner-city emergency department.

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