

**WFPICCS and Hard Manufacturing Co., Inc. announce the winner of the
2018 – 2020 HARD Manufacturing – WFPICCS Pediatric Critical Care Research Grants**

Geneva, Switzerland and Buffalo, NY, USA | 15 April, 2019. Hard Manufacturing Co., Inc., and the World Federation of Pediatric Intensive & Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS) entered a partnership in support of WFPICCS' goal and mission to advocate for the care of critically ill and injured children worldwide.

The partnership was launched during the 8th WFPICCS Congress held in Toronto, Canada in 2016 and kick started with the first ***HARD Manufacturing Co., Inc. -WFPICCS Pediatric Critical Care Research Grants*** – this year, one grant, up to \$10,000 was available to fund a research project aimed at improving the care of critically ill children.

We're now delighted to announce that the winner of the second grant round:

Associate Professor Karin Reuter-Rice, Duke University School of Nursing, USA with *'Environmental Sensors in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit: Examining the Relationship of Light and Sound to Pediatric Sleep and Delirium Risk'*.

"It's exciting to see so many keen researchers pursuing answers to many problems in the intensive care unit", says WFPICCS President Stephen Jacobs. Both the reviewers and committee felt that that A/Professor Karin Reuter-Rice's proposal addressed an important topic which was under-researched in the PICU context and highly relevant to the physical PICU environment and this grant call.

Many exceptional applications were received, and the selection process was based on specific criteria and through a competitive grant competition. The process of narrowing down an excellent applicant pool is challenging, especially when there are so many highly qualified candidates and projects, however, all applications were independently assessed and scored by two reviewers before being reviewed and ranked by a committee composed of two doctors and two nurses.

"We believe that this collaboration will drive innovation, thanks to activities like these grants which allow WFPICCS members to carry out meaningful studies often not covered by traditional research funding. It is hoped these studies will provide cost effective and simple solutions applicable to a variety of resource settings, improving the lives of children while in hospitals" said Marjorie Bryen, Hard Manufacturing Co., Inc. President.

The research findings will be presented at the 10th WFPICCS Congress taking place in Mexico City from 14 to 17 June, 2019.

About WFPICCS

The World Federation of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care Societies (WFPICCS) was established in Paris, in September 1997. WFPICCS' objectives include to:

- Encourage the development of new clinical treatments and appropriate application of new and existing critical care technologies and treatments to infants, children and adolescents with life threatening illness.
- Promote education programs and the dissemination of scientific information relevant to the specialty.
- Recommend desirable standards and guidelines for the training of Pediatric Intensive (and Critical Care) practitioners.
- Provide information regarding opportunities for postgraduate clinical and research training worldwide.
- Encourage research into all aspects of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care.
- Promote multidisciplinary collaboration between Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care specialist by supporting education and professional developments of all health professional involved in Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care.
- Arrange at regular intervals a World Congress of Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care and promote regional congresses: to encourage meetings in special groups within the specialty and make provision for them to meet where appropriate at the above World Congress.
- Assist and encourage the development and formation of national and regional organizations dedicated to Pediatric Intensive and Critical Care.

About Hard Manufacturing Co., Inc.

Hard Manufacturing focuses on meeting the unique needs of neonate and pediatric patients and their care givers by providing high-end crib functionality for the active pediatric patient, delivering high functionality critical care cribs, and serving as the industry standard for newborn and pediatric hospital cribs. All of their products, including the most extensive line of hospital and homecare cribs and youth beds, are designed and manufactured in their worldwide headquarters in Buffalo, New York. The family business, established in 1876, has been exceeding customer satisfaction through exceptional customer service, continuous process and quality improvement efforts and product leadership.