

## **Evans, Kelly**

I am currently an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Clinical Medicine at the University of Washington. My research focuses on sleep and breathing in infants with craniofacial conditions, such as Robin sequence. My clinical experience treating children with craniofacial anomalies and airway compromise, combined with my recognition of the disproportionate risk of sleep problems in this population and gaps in our knowledge regarding sleep-related outcomes motivate my work. Though craniofacial anomalies and conditions such as Robin sequence are uncommon, the health impact for children and families is high. I completed my Pediatric residency 2007 and my Craniofacial medicine fellowship in 2012. While pursuing training in craniofacial medicine, I cemented my commitment to serve children with Robin sequence. I received an NIH T32 post-doctoral grant to conduct pilot studies focusing on identification of phenotypic features and comorbidities associated with upper airway obstruction in Robin sequence. Support from the Center for Clinical and Translational Research at Seattle Children's Research Institute has facilitated investigation of sleep-related outcomes for infants with craniofacial conditions, and development of a database of sleep metrics for healthy infants. In my current studies, we are collecting and validating novel measures of sleep, airway phenotype and family function in infants with a variety of craniofacial conditions. I participated in international workgroup developing consensus-based tools to identify and treat neonates with upper airway obstruction. And in 2017, I co-directed a multidisciplinary consensus conference aiming to facilitate clinical care and research progress for children with Robin sequence. Collectively, this work has provided me with insight into the gaps that remain in infant sleep and Robin sequence research, has informed the direction for my future work, and impressed upon me the importance developing collaborative research partnerships.