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Dr. Speer is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Stony Brook University School of Medicine, and an attending neonatologist at Stony Brook University Medical Center. She completed her MD degree at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz and her PhD degree at Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms University in Bonn, Germany. After relocation to the United States, she completed her pediatric residency training at the State University of New York in Brooklyn and her neonatal-perinatal fellowship training at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Chicago.

Dr. Speer's research interests focus on the neonatal inflammatory response to perinatal infections including sepsis, and the pharmacological modulation of the inflammatory response with the ultimate goal to improve outcomes in neonates exposed to severe infections and/or inflammation. To achieve this, Dr. Speer's laboratory has established in vitro and in vivo models of perinatal infection and inflammation that allow screening of candidate immunomodulatory agents in vitro followed by detailed in vivo testing in neonatal animal infection models.