

# The *Wall Street Journal*, Streptococcus pneumoniae and the **FDA**

*This is an example of the remarkable work being done at Children's Hospital in collaboration with specialists at Creighton University Medical School and University of Nebraska Medical Center.*

QUIETLY, WITHOUT MUCH FANFARE OUTSIDE THE MEDICAL WORLD, SOME AMAZING PEDIATRIC TREATMENTS AND VACCINES ARE BEING DEVELOPED HERE IN NEBRASKA AT CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

Stephen Chartrand, M.D., a nationally recognized researcher in children's infectious diseases, continues to impress the medical community with breakthroughs. *The Wall Street Journal* recently quoted his research in the treatment of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, the number one cause of children's ear infections.

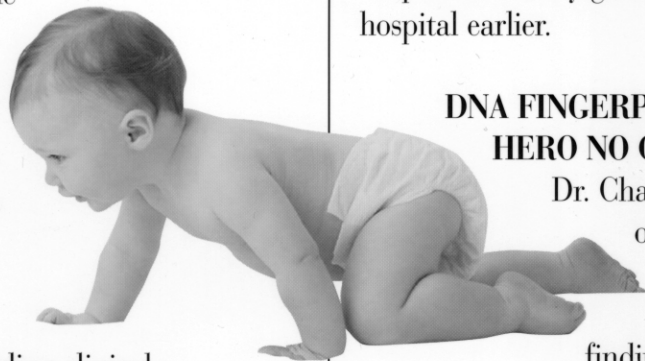
To treat these ear infections, physicians were turning to a broad spectrum of highly potent drugs, creating a highly resistant "superbug." Dr. Chartrand demonstrated that a return to the familiar amoxicillin, in higher doses, could be just as effective, and better for kids in the long term.

## CAPTAIN VACCINE

Dr. Chartrand and Children's were among the first to test and prove safe a new vaccine for Rotavirus, the most common cause of severe diarrhea and gastroenteritis in children. (Rotavirus is responsible for 800,000 childhood deaths yearly around the world.) The vaccine was in use in Nebraska 6-7 years ahead of the rest of the country.

Dr. Chartrand is one of the country's leading clinical researchers on the new varicella (chicken pox) vaccine. Through his work, this vaccine was available to Nebraska's children 10 years before it was licensed for routine use.

Dr. Chartrand and his colleagues also took a leading role in the testing of a new injectable antibody to prevent RSV pneumonia in premature infants. This antibody has now been approved by the FDA and has become standard care for premature infants across the country. Dr. Chartrand also



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*"When you pool resources,"*  
*Dr. Chartrand states,*  
*"everybody comes out a*  
*winner. In the last ten years,*  
*huge steps have been taken to*  
*integrate the academic teaching*  
*component here at Children's.*

*When the new hospital opens, Children's*  
*will be on par with*  
*some of the best in the country."*

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helped write national guidelines for the use of this lifesaving preventative therapy.

Dr. Chartrand's colleagues recently developed a rapid test for the early diagnosis of viral meningitis in children. This test provides for speedier detection and treatment and can save thousands of dollars per hospitalization by getting children out of the hospital earlier.

## DNA FINGERPRINTING AND THE HERO NO ONE KNOWS

Dr. Chartrand's breakthroughs on the spread of "superbugs" within day-care centers resulted from findings only possible with DNA fingerprinting. The DNA work comes from a colleague at Creighton, Dr. Richard Goring, another behind-the-scenes specialist collaborating, contributing and quietly making great things possible.

What's ironic about the extraordinary work done by Dr. Chartrand and his colleagues is its anonymity. His research and findings will impact the lives of so many children around the world,

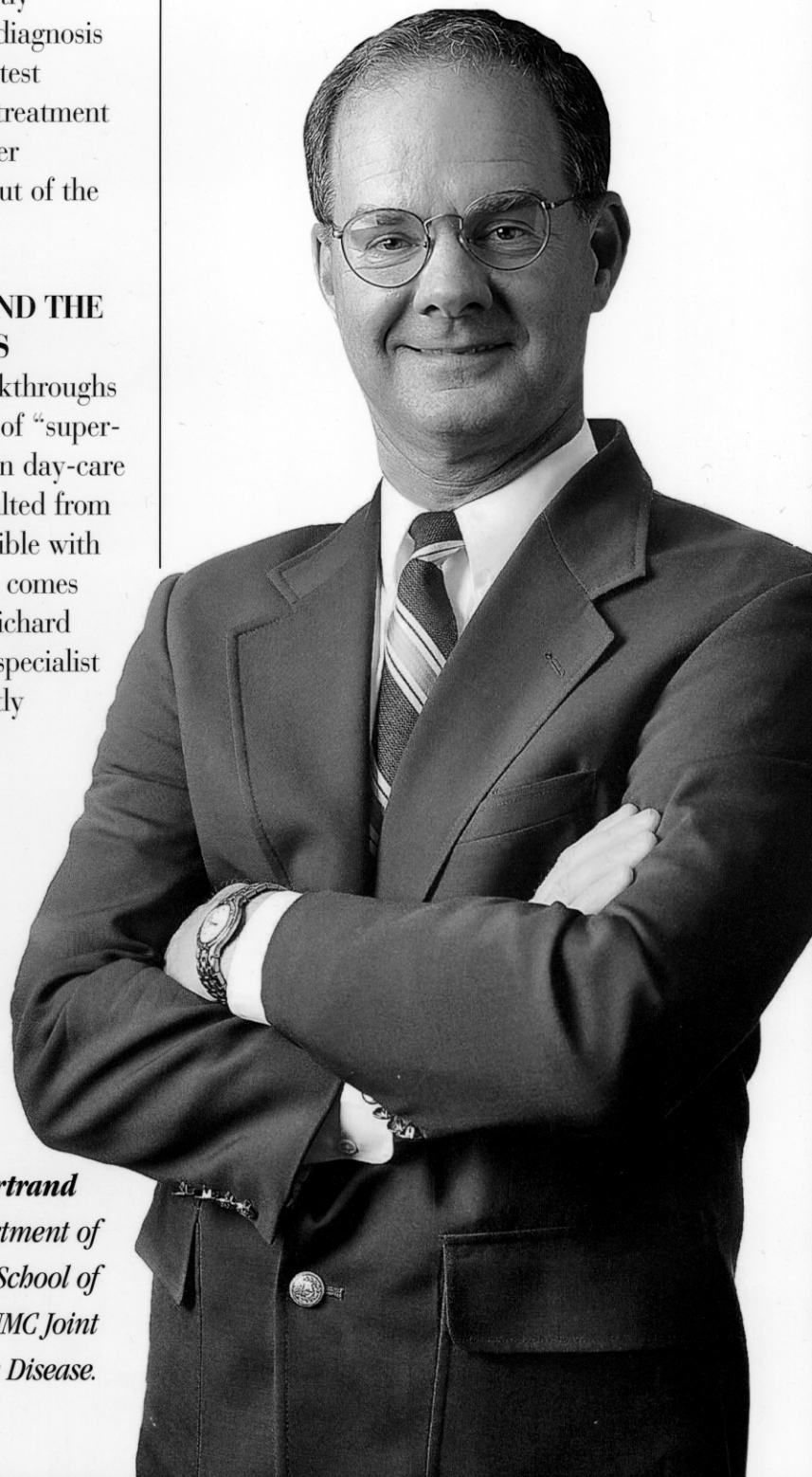
yet he and his peers will rarely be recognized for all they're doing.

## OMAHA, A PEDIATRIC MAJOR LEAGUER

Dr. Chartrand's vaccine work continues to attract attention from sources across the country, including the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, *The Wall Street Journal*, and countless medical publications. Recently he presented his varicella vaccine work in China.

The best part of all this clinical expertise is that it flourishes in an environment dedicated to kids. From our pediatric nursing staff and play counselors, to our child-sized medical tools, right down to the size of robes and pajamas, everything stands as proof of our total dedication to the health, healing and happiness of kid-sized patients.

When the new Children's Hospital is finished in September, our state and region will have the capacity and credentials to lead the way in pediatric care for the next century.



A teaching facility for Creighton University and UNMC

Doctors for today's kids.

(402) 955-5400 • www.chsomaha.org

**Dr. Stephen Chartrand**  
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*Medicine and Director of the Creighton/UNMC Joint*  
*Division of Pediatric Infectious Disease.*