Pulmonary Hypertension Program

Offered at our Sibley Heart Center



At Children's, your patient now has a centralized home for pulmonary hypertension management, with access to specialists who also treat the conditions associated with pulmonary hypertension. If you have a patient who is at risk based on an underlying condition, is thought to have related symptoms or has established pulmonary hypertension, refer him to the Pulmonary Hypertension Program.

Why Children's?

- Children need care from specialists who have experience in managing the specific drugs and therapies used to treat pulmonary hypertension.*
- We provide both inpatient and outpatient care, with 24-hour coverage through our Cardiac Call Center.

Our team

Our multispecialty team includes four pediatric cardiologists, a pediatric pulmonologist, a pediatric nurse practitioner and a dedicated nurse. Our team understands that effective treatment of pulmonary hypertension requires coordinated care. We work closely with all of the physicians and specialists treating your patient.

About pulmonary hypertension

Pulmonary hypertension is a disorder of the blood vessels in the lungs that results in elevated blood pressure in the pulmonary arteries. While sometimes pulmonary hypertension has no known cause, called idiopathic pulmonary hypertension (or primary pulmonary hypertension), more frequently it occurs as a side effect of another disease process.

Conditions such as congenital diaphragmatic hernia, bronchopulmonary dysplasia, scleroderma, restrictive lung disease, sickle cell disease and congenital heart disease are known to contribute to the development of pulmonary hypertension.

Our services

Our program provides a complete range of services from assessment and treatment to long-term, follow-up care.

Assessments

- Blood work
- Cardiac catheterization
- Echocardiograms
- Electrocardiograms
- Exercise and walk testing
- Pulmonary function testing
- Radiographic studies
 - X-ray
 - Computed tomography (CT) scans
 - Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans
 - Nuclear medicine scans

Treatment of pulmonary hypertension

Pulmonary hypertension can be treated a number of ways depending on the cause and severity. If there is an underlying cause (e.g., lung disease or obstructive sleep apnea), the first step is to treat that condition. Treatment also can include oral medications, oxygen, inhaled medications and, in severe cases, continuous I.V. or subcutaneous medications.



Call 404-785-2950 for inpatient consultation or to refer a patient to the Pulmonary Hypertension Program.



Visit choa.org/PH to download a referral form.

*Scientific Leadership Council of the Pulmonary Hypertension Association