

Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Program



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Children'sSM
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— Emory University School of Medicine and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta offer pediatric cardiology fellowship training to promising physicians interested in an outstanding experience at an academically productive and clinically robust regional referral center.

We are uniquely positioned to leverage the high patient volumes and excellent outcomes of Children’s and the academic strength of Emory University to provide a comprehensive training program in all disciplines of pediatric cardiology. There are also opportunities to collaborate with other organizations, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Rollins School of Public Health, Goizueta Business School and Georgia Institute of Technology.

In addition, Children’s and Emory have partnered to create the Congenital Heart Center of Georgia. The program is one of the largest in the country—and the only one in Georgia—specializing in the treatment of children and adults who have congenital heart disease (CHD). Together, we provide a seamless continuum of comprehensive cardiovascular care from birth through adulthood.

curriculum

Our cardiology fellows rotate through all disciplines of pediatric cardiology, including: interventional cardiology, echocardiography, electrophysiology, clinical ward and intensive care cardiology, adult congenital cardiology and a weekly outpatient continuity clinic. Electives are offered in areas such as heart failure, outpatient cardiology and pediatric critical care. Fellows receive three weeks of vacation each year.

Rotations (4 weeks)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Cardiac intensive care	0.5	2.5	0
Echocardiography	3	1	1.5
Catheterization	2	1	0-1
Wards/consult	3.5	1	1.5
Electrophysiology	1	1	0
Research	2	4	7
Electives	0	1	2
Adult congenital/MRI	0	0	1
Anesthesia	0	0.5	0

The fellowship program training is 36 months. After completion of a three-year fellowship, fourth-year training is available to internal and external candidates in:

- Noninvasive imaging
- Interventional cardiology
- Electrophysiology
- Cardiac intensive care
- Outcomes research
- Heart failure/transplant

Our program offers fellows the opportunity to obtain an MPH at Emory's Rollins School of Public Health

or an MBA from Emory's Goizueta Business School or an MSCR from Emory's Laney Graduate School. Fellows also can participate in the Emory Global Health Residency Scholars Program, which includes a yearlong curriculum, consisting of a series of monthly lectures, seminars, discussions and journal clubs, as well as a one-month clinical rotation in Ethiopia.

Our program offers fellows the opportunity to:

- Present at our annual pediatric echocardiography course.
- Participate in important clinical, translational, basic science, multicenter and interdisciplinary research.
- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the outpatient management of both childhood and adult congenital heart disease and the need for continuous follow-up during a patient's lifetime.
- Learn associated disciplines such as genetics, radiology and cardiothoracic surgery.
- Enhance decision-making skills in a program that supports autonomy with appropriate oversight.
- Serve as a primary caretaker while rotating in cardiology clinical services.

— “Great teachers, high volume with complex disease, willingness from faculty to let us work independently.”

On-call schedule

Fellows take call approximately one in six nights as first years, one in seven nights as second years and one in eight nights as third years.

Accreditation

Our Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Program has been accredited since 2002 by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and is the largest accredited program in the Southeast.

Fellows at Children's have a wealth of opportunities to conduct research, including basic scientific, translational, clinical or outcomes research. Our established relationships with the CDC, Georgia Tech, Emory Rollins School of Public Health and the Atlanta Clinical & Translational Science Institute create a collaborative environment for research. While fellows are required to lead at least one investigation during fellowship, they typically conduct three or more projects and present research findings at two or more scientific meetings. There are 13 four-week blocks of dedicated research time during fellowship, and the program's flexibility allows more time for further research, or advanced research training.

— “The patient volume and variety of cases that I saw in fellowship has helped tremendously. There really is not much that I haven't seen and taken care of.”

Research Support

A comprehensive system of training and support has been created to enhance the development of fellows' research expertise, including:

Formal research curriculum—Through the Fellows Introduction to Research Training program (FIRsT), all fellows at Children's receive an overview and introduction to clinical and translational research in the academic setting. This is complemented by cardiology research faculty members who have journal clubs and teaching sessions on epidemiology, statistics and research design.

Statistical and Manuscript Support—As part of their research curriculum, fellows will learn how to perform basic statistics and how to write a scientific manuscript. More formal statistical expertise for conducting research is provided to all cardiac fellows through the Biostatistics Core. Manuscript editing services are provided through the Grants and Editing Manuscript Support Core.

Funding—While most fellow projects can be accomplished without grant funding, fellows have been successful in obtaining internal funding from Children's and external funding from various foundations, industry and the NIH, including the NIH Loan Repayment Program. Formal training and support in applying for grants are provided by the pediatrics department and the medical school. Funding to present research findings at scientific meetings is provided.

Mentorship—Fellows will work directly with an experienced research mentor in their area of interest. They will have a scholarship oversight committee to help guide them during their research endeavors. While most fellows choose research mentors within the cardiology department, there are opportunities to have mentors from other departments or institutions when applicable

Research Accomplishments

Cardiology fellows have been very successful in their research endeavors at Children's. Selected research accomplishments by cardiology fellows in the last 5 years include:

- 59 abstract presentations at local and national meetings
- 76 published manuscripts
- 8 Young Investigator Award recipients or finalists at local and national research meetings, including American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology (ACC) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

key facts

- We have been recognized as one of the top pediatric cardiac programs in the country—ranked No. 8 by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Our cardiac patient volumes are among the highest in the U.S.
- We treat a cardiac patient population with surgical complexity scores of 7.5—exceeding the national average of 7.3.¹
- Children’s is among the top 10 pediatric heart transplant programs in the U.S. by volume,² managing more than 300 heart transplants since program inception.
- With 27 beds, we have one of the largest dedicated pediatric cardiac intensive care units (CICU) in the U.S. Our cardiologists also provide consults on the 30-bed pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) and the 42-bed neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).
- We provide comprehensive care for congenital and acquired heart disease, including:
 - Cardiothoracic surgery
 - Transplantation
 - Interventional and diagnostic catheterization
 - Electrophysiology
 - Extensive, noninvasive diagnostic testing
- Our Subspecialty Programs include, but are not limited to, Pulmonary Hypertension, Aorta and Vascular and Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy.



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our team

Our physicians are faculty members of Emory School of Medicine. Our cardiac services team includes:

- 45 pediatric cardiologists
- Four pediatric cardiothoracic surgeons
- Pediatric cardiac anesthesiologists
- Pediatric cardiac researchers
- Advanced practice providers
- Certified critical-care nurses
- Family support team

“We have great teachers with an incredible amount of experience and the desire to see us succeed.”

Program leadership



William Mahle, M.D.

Chief, Children’s Sibley Heart Center
Marcus Professor of Cardiology
Director, Division of Pediatric Cardiology
Department of Pediatrics
Emory University School of Medicine



Peter S. Fischbach, M.D., M.A.

Director, Fellowship Program
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Emory University School of Medicine
Chief Academic Officer, Sibley Heart Center, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta



Michael Wolf, M.D.

Associate Director, Fellowship Program
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Emory University School of Medicine



Visit choa.org/cardiologyfellowship to learn more and apply.



Call 404-785-6210 for more information.



Contact Shelley M. Ash, Coordinator, Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Program at shelley.ash@choa.org.