

# Pancreas Care Center



The Pancreas Care Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center is one of the only dedicated pediatric pancreas care centers in the country. It has been nationally recognized as an NPF Center by the National Pancreas Foundation. We are one of a few children's hospitals to receive this prestigious designation. Our multidisciplinary team takes a centralized, coordinated approach, with the goal of providing rapid diagnosis and effective therapies, including pain management. Our center is part of the Cincinnati Children's Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, which is ranked in the top four pediatric gastroenterology divisions in the United States.

## EXPERIENCED PEDIATRIC PANCREAS SPECIALISTS

Our core team of specialists has extensive experience in caring for children with pancreas disorders. Their years of experience are an advantage, since pancreatic disorders are widely misunderstood and can be difficult to diagnose.

Our clinical team is led by pediatric gastroenterologists and pediatric surgeons and also includes physicians specializing in pain management, endocrinology, oncology and radiology. These experts work closely with the center's genetics counselor, pain psychologist, nurses, registered dietitian and social workers to address all aspects of a patient's condition.

## FULL SPECTRUM OF CONDITIONS TREATED

- Acute, recurrent and chronic pancreatitis
- Autoimmune pancreatitis
- Pancreatic congenital anomalies including annular pancreas and pancreas divisum
- Pancreatic cysts and pseudocysts
- Pancreatic exocrine insufficiency associated with malabsorption, in patients with cystic fibrosis or Shwachman-Diamond syndrome
- Pancreatic masses or tumors, including pancreatoblastomas as well as those associated with von Hippel-Lindau syndrome or other neuroendocrine tumors
- Pancreatic trauma

## CONTACT US

For patient referrals and non-urgent consultation during business hours, contact the program directly at:

Phone: **513-803-2123**  
[pancreas@cchmc.org](mailto:pancreas@cchmc.org)



Cincinnati Children's is ranked #4 in Gastroenterology & GI Surgery and third among all Honor Roll hospitals in the 2015-16 *U.S. News & World Report* listing of Best Children's Hospitals.



## TREATMENT TEAM

### GASTROENTEROLOGY

Maisam A. Abu-El-Hajja, MD  
*Medical Director*

Tom K. Lin, MD

*Associate Director,  
Director of Endoscopy*

Joseph J. Palermo, MD, PhD

*Associate Director,  
Medical Director, TPIAT Program*

### SURGERY

Jaimie D. Nathan, MD

*Surgical Director*

Greg Tiao, MD

### ENDOCRINOLOGY

Deborah A. Elder, MD

### ONCOLOGY

James I. Geller, MD

### PAIN MANAGEMENT

Kenneth R. Goldschneider, MD

John B. Rose, MD

Alexandra Szabova, MD

### GENETICS COUNSELING

Jennifer Hopper, LGC

### RADIOLOGY

Jonathan R. Dillman, MD

Alexander J. Towbin, MD

Andrew T. Trout, MD

### NURSING

Joyce Haynes, RN

Jennifer Jacob, RN, BSN,  
MSN, CPN

S. Mark Ogg, RN, BSN, MSN,  
FNP-C

Joyce Slusher, RN, BSN, MSN,  
PNP-C

Angela Turner, RN, BSN, CPN

### SOCIAL WORK

Lisa Belle, MSW, LSW

Julie Sheehan, MSW, LSW

### CLINICAL RESEARCH

#### COORDINATOR

Tyler Thompson, BS

## A COORDINATED APPROACH TO CARE

When families contact our center for an initial appointment, the process begins with a thorough phone interview, in which a nurse obtains information about the child's medical history, test results and past therapies. Our multidisciplinary team meets to review the information and identify next steps.

The first visit can last one or more days and includes physician appointments, diagnostic tests and/or procedures, all scheduled as conveniently as possible for families. Our team then discusses findings and treatment recommendations with the family, often including pain management techniques and dietary changes. Because a high percentage of patients with chronic pancreatitis experience pain, we offer a multidisciplinary approach to pain management that engages several modes of treatment, not just medications.

### If surgery is indicated...

- Surgical procedures are performed by our hepatopancreaticobiliary and transplant surgery specialists, and endoscopic procedures such as endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) are performed by an ERCP-fellowship trained, pediatric endoscopist with in-depth endoscopic experience.
- Cincinnati Children's is one of only a few medical centers in the country offering pediatric total pancreatectomy and islet auto-transplantation (TPIAT) for children with chronic pancreatitis. Our capabilities are enhanced by a close working relationship with colleagues at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, who were among the first to perform TPIAT in adolescents and adults. Patients also benefit from the proximity of a fully-accredited islet isolation facility on the adjacent University of Cincinnati campus.

Frequent care conferences provide opportunities for our specialists to discuss how each patient is progressing and to look for ways to enhance their care. As patients near adulthood, our social workers help them make a smooth transition to an adult provider.

## RESEARCH THAT ENHANCES CLINICAL CARE

Our team also is actively involved in research to better understand the underlying causes of pediatric pancreatic disorders. We maintain a patient registry and use the data to identify ways to standardize patient care protocols in order to minimize exposure to narcotics, shorten hospital stays and improve clinical outcomes.

**For urgent issues, or to speak with the specialist  
on call 24/7, call the Physician Priority Link at  
1-888-987-7997.**

[www.cincinnatichildrens.org](http://www.cincinnatichildrens.org)