

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO COMER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Pediatric Neurosurgery

The new University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital is a state-of-the-art medical center with a kid-friendly, family focus. Our teams of pediatric experts develop individualized treatment plans for each child. They also successfully treat complex conditions.



In addition to advanced technology, our hospital offers private rooms and in-room sleeping accommodations for parents, as well as group play areas for kids. Our pediatric care is ranked among the best in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*.

WHY CHOOSE US FOR PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGICAL CARE?

At Chicago Comer Children's Hospital, our pediatric neurosurgeons care for the full range of neurosurgical disease. We are particularly recognized for our

treatment of hydrocephalus, birth defects of the nervous system, and brain and spinal tumors, as well as for our surgery for epilepsy. Each year, we perform hundreds of neurosurgical procedures in infants and children. Because our neuroscience programs are ranked among the best in the country, families from around the world come to us.

In addition to being leaders in neurosurgery, our doctors are also pioneers in the field of minimally invasive neurosurgical technology. For example, they use stereotactic (3-D computer-imaging) techniques to "map" the brain and miniature exposures of the brain or endoscopic techniques to reach inside the brain and spine. These techniques allow surgeons to operate with pinpoint accuracy, minimizing trauma to the skull and brain. They also help doctors remove tumors and other lesions more completely.

PEDIATRIC BRAIN AND SPINE SURGERY AT THE FOREFRONT OF MEDICINE

Here, pediatric neurosurgeons work closely with pediatric neurologists, oncologists, orthopaedic surgeons, and other specialists. Together, each child's medical team creates a comprehensive treatment plan. Some of the conditions we treat in our many multidisciplinary clinics and conferences include:

- Brain and spinal cord tumors
- Congenital anomalies of the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves
- Dystonia and tremor
- Epilepsy
- Neurofibromatosis and tuberous sclerosis
- Spasticity
- Spina bifida

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY AND FUNCTIONAL PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY

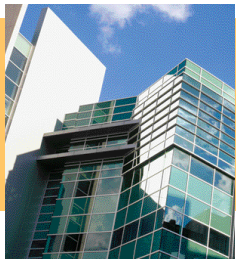
We offer the latest techniques in minimally invasive surgery. For example, our experts can treat hydrocephalus (fluid on the brain) and brain tumors through small, dime-sized incisions in the scalp. Compared with traditional surgery, minimally invasive procedures offer shorter recovery times, less pain, and fewer surgical risks.

Another emerging technique available at the Chicago Comer Children's Hospital is functional pediatric neurosurgery. For children with hard-to-treat movement disorders such as spasticity and dystonia, neurosurgeons can implant drug pumps and stimulators. In this way, doctors can affect the function of the nervous system without injuring it – and eliminate the need to remove brain or spine tissue.



www.uchicagokidshospital.org
For an appointment, call 1-888-UCH-0200

At the Forefront of **KIDS** Medicine®



AN ADVANCED APPROACH TO SEIZURES

The Pediatric Epilepsy Center at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital is the busiest pediatric surgical epilepsy program in Chicago and one of the busiest in the nation. We offer advanced treatment options for children with epilepsy. These include medication, seizure monitoring, and surgery. Before surgery is performed, our epilepsy experts use non-invasive monitoring techniques to create 3-D images of the brain's electrical activity. These "electrical source imaging" studies help our specialists determine if surgery is the best treatment option. We are one of only a few centers to offer this technology to young patients.

HELP FOR CHILDREN WITH HYDROCEPHALUS AND BIRTH DEFECTS

We have established an exceptional program to care for children with birth defects of the nervous system. Some of the conditions we treat include:

- Hydrocephalus. This condition can occur after premature birth or trauma, or result from a birth defect. Our hydrocephalus care is internationally recognized. We offer the full range of devices to drain excess fluid from the brain. We also offer new, noninvasive ways to test the effectiveness of shunts after they have been implanted.

- Spina bifida. We provide coordinated, interdisciplinary inpatient and outpatient care for spina bifida. In our outpatient clinics, our team of neurosurgeons, neurologists, pediatricians, urologists, and orthopaedists monitors each child from his or her first days of life into adulthood.
- Chiari malformation and syringomyelia. This birth defect is located where the brain and the spinal cord join together. Children with Chiari can suffer from fatigue, headaches, dizziness, muscle weakness, chronic pain, impaired vision, and decreased feelings in the hands and feet. Syringomyelia may be associated with Chiari or an entirely separate entity from a different cause but can affect all aspects of spinal cord function. Our treatment of Chiari and syringomyelia is also recognized internationally. Because we know that Chiari syndrome can affect every aspect of a child's life, we have a support group to assist these children and their families.

A TARGETED APPROACH TO TUMORS: THE PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOR CENTER

Our pediatric neuro-oncology team includes pediatricians, pediatric oncologists, neurologists, and neurosurgeons. We offer a variety of treatments including surgery, radiation therapies, and

chemotherapies. Because our program is a member of the Children's Oncology Group, children with hard-to-treat tumors can enroll in trials of novel therapeutics. In addition, autologous bone marrow transplant is available for children with malignant brain tumors.

CONTACT US

To learn more about the pediatric neurosurgery program at Chicago Comer Children's Hospital, please call (773) 702-2475, or visit our Web site at www.uchicagokidshospital.org/neurosurgery/.



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