

Acute and Chronic Liver Disease

500+

Outpatients with liver disease
evaluated each year

742

Gene mutation screens
for children with chronic
liver disease in 2013

\$1.6 million

NIH research funding in 2013

21

Liver transplants in 2013

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center provides advanced, multidisciplinary care for children and adolescents with acute and chronic liver disease. Our experienced specialists develop personalized treatment plans that target the cause of each patient's condition. Each year, more than 500 patients come to our clinic from around the United States and from as far away as Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and the Dominican Republic.

PERSONALIZED CARE PLAN

Our experienced hepatologists use state-of-the-art protocols to evaluate patients and begin treatment as quickly as possible. Treatment is personalized, family-centered and designed to improve short- and long-term outcomes.

COMPREHENSIVE CONSULTATION

All patients begin their appointment with a hepatologist and a nurse care manager. Depending on the extent and type of disease, patients may also be evaluated by other experts from our team, including a liver surgeon, radiologist, pathologist and dietitian. The goal is to complete the evaluation and develop a treatment plan in a timely fashion.

CONDITIONS TREATED

We evaluate and treat a wide range of chronic liver diseases, including:

- Autoimmune hepatitis
- Hepatitis B and C virus infection
- Alagille syndrome
- Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency
- Biliary atresia
- Chronic cholestasis (jaundice)
- Cirrhosis
- Cystic fibrosis-associated liver disease
- Defects of bile acid metabolism
- Drug toxicity (drug-induced liver injury)
- Elevated liver enzymes
- Glycogen storage disease
- Hepatoblastoma
- Liver disease of unknown cause
- Liver tumors and vascular diseases
- Metabolic liver disease
- Neonatal cholestasis (jaundice)
- Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis / fatty liver disease
- Sclerosing cholangitis
- Progressive familial cholestasis
- Wilson's disease



TREATMENT TEAM

Hepatology

William Balistreri, MD

Jorge Bezerra, MD

John Bucuvalas, MD

Kathleen Campbell, MD

James Heubi, MD

Monique Goldschmidt, MD

Samuel Kocoshis, MD

Rohit Kohli, MBBS, MS

Mike Leonis, MD, PhD

Alexander Miethke, MD

Liver Transplant / Hepatobiliary Surgeons

Maria Alonso, MD

Jaimie Nathan, MD

Frederick Ryckman, MD

Greg Tiao, MD

Nurse Care Managers

Joanne Mitchell, RN

Nicole Roedersheimer, RN

Jennifer Willoughby, RN, BSN, CPN

Linda Nicholas, RN

Nutrition

Renee Wieman, RD, CSP,
LD, CNSD

TREATMENT APPROACH

Before a patient's first visit to our clinic, we conduct a thorough review of past test results and therapies. Our multidisciplinary team meets to discuss the case, identify whether consultations are needed and plan the tests for the initial visit. Our staff then contacts the family and reviews the plan before the appointment.

Our diagnostic capabilities help our team create a step-wise, cost-effective treatment plan. State-of-the-art technologies include testing for errors of bile acid metabolism; thorough screening for metabolic diseases; genetic mutation screening for inheritable diseases of the liver; biopsy interpretation and radiologic imaging.

For children and adolescents with advanced stages of liver disease, our experts will proceed with a timely evaluation for liver transplantation. Our liver clinic and transplant teams work closely to determine the need to place a patient on the transplant list and to implement a comprehensive treatment protocol that minimizes complications and improves post-transplant outcomes.

RESEARCH TO IMPROVE CLINICAL CARE

In addition to using state-of-the-art diagnostics and therapeutics, our experts conduct research to develop innovative diagnostics and new treatment strategies for children with liver disease. The research projects, funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health and local and national organizations, focus on:

- Biomarkers for biliary atresia
- The efficacy of corticosteroids in biliary atresia
- Genetic mutations in liver disease
- Staging liver disease in cystic fibrosis
- New therapies for autoimmune hepatitis and sclerosing cholangitis
- Biomarkers and therapies for fatty liver disease
- New therapies for hepatitis B and C
- Treatment for errors of bile acid metabolism
- Diagnosis and treatment of liver tumors