

Cardiology

Cardiology services are provided on both an inpatient and outpatient basis. Emergency cardiac services are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Willson Heart Center Outpatient Practice at Children's Hospital and our outreach centers in Modesto, Merced, and Visalia provide assessment and follow-up care for over 5,000 outpatients each year with known or suspected cardiac, cardiopulmonary, and cardiovascular disease. Nearly 40 percent of the Center's patients are under 4 years old. Every effort is made to treat children in the outpatient environment in an attempt to reduce a family's stress and discomfort.

Through use of our computerized echocardiography system, echocardiography is available in the practice's rooms, and additional cardiac testing capabilities are provided through the testing center. Our Electro-physiology Clinic provides assessment and follow-up care for outpatients with known or suspected cardiac conduction abnormalities.

A pediatric cardiologist has completed a residency in pediatrics and a fellowship in pediatric cardiology.

The pediatric cardiologist treats congenital heart disease in infants, children and teenagers. The following patients should be referred to a pediatric cardiologist: Infants, children and teenagers with chest pain, murmur, irregular heart rhythm and syncope.

Children's Access Center

24/7 access for referring physicians
(866) 353-KIDS (5437)

Outpatient Referral

Referral forms online at: www.childrenscentralcal.org/services/medicaloffice/refer
FAX: (559) 353-8888

Cardiology Office Numbers

Main Number: (559) 353-6257
FAX: (559) 353-5455
Physician Line: (559) 353-6258

Physician Liaison: (559) 353-7229

Medical Staff:

Robert Appleton, MD
John Caton, MD
Paul Francis, MD
Narakesari Heragu, MD
Kenneth Jue, MD
Carl Owada, MD
James Prochazka, MD
Kenneth Rouillard, MD
Valeriano Simbre, MD

Pediatric Cardiology Consultant Reference Guide

Tips for an effective visit:

- Talk with your patient and family about the reason for the referral and the questions to be answered
- Please send all pertinent information ahead of time to allow us to better serve our patients and their families

Disease State	Suggested Work-up and Initial Management	When to Refer
Murmur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None: All necessary testing can be done in our office at the time of referral -Send: Office note documenting when murmur first heard - Will have EKG at cardiology evaluation and possibly echo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If practitioner is uncomfortable with physical exam findings - Prior to competitive sports participation if felt to be pathologic - Parental concern
Chest Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does not need prior EKG or echo - All necessary testing can be done in our office at the time of referral - CXR if musculoskeletal pain is suspected -Send: Office note documenting when problem started; documentation of any relevant tests - Will have EKG at cardiology evaluation and possibly echo, stress test or event monitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prior to competitive sports participation - If cardiac cause is suspected
Syncope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None: All necessary testing can be done in our office at the time of referral -Send: Office note documenting when problem started; documentation of any relevant tests - Will have EKG at cardiology evaluation and possibly echo, stress test or event monitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prior to competitive sports participation - If cardiac cause is suspected - If therapy is indicated
Palpitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EKG – can be faxed or sent for our evaluation; have family keep a log of events -Send: Office note documenting when problem started; documentation of any relevant tests - Will have EKG at cardiology evaluation and possibly echo, stress test or event monitor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When palpitations are frequent or severe
Abnormal EKG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Send or fax EKG before referral; we can help determine if referral indicated -Send: Office records - Will have EKG at cardiology evaluation and possibly echo 	
Abnormal Echo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Send or fax echo diagnosis; we can help determine if referral indicated -Send: Office records - Will have EKG and possibly echo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If PFO or PPAS refer at 6 months of age - If other defect refer

Pediatric Cardiology Consultant Reference Guide

Disease State	Suggested Work-up and Initial Management	When to Refer
Family History	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Family history of sudden cardiac death at young age; family history of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy- Send: Any office records and records of family member- Will have EKG at cardiology evaluation and possibly echo, stress test or event monitor	- At time of diagnosis in family member
Hyperlipidemia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- May be managed by primary care; selected referrals may be appropriate- Referral to Dr Prochazka or Dr. Heragu for selected cases- Fasting lipid profile prior to visit	
Hypertension	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Refer to Nephrology if not associated with coarctation of the aorta	
Obesity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- This is not a pediatric cardiology problem; may be managed by primary care- Refer to Nutritionist	

Pediatric Cardiology Consultant Reference Guide

Insurance Plans*

Aetna EPO/HMO/PPO

AllCare IPA

Bakersfield Family Medical Center/ Heritage Physician Network

Blue Cross HMO/ Prudent Buyer PPO/ Healthy Families EPO

Blue Cross Medi-Cal/ Healthy Families HMO

Blue Shield HMO/ PPO/ Healthy Families

Capp Care (Beachstreet)

Catholic Healthcare West-Bakersfield

CCS – California Children's Services

Central California Alliance for Health

Central Valley Medical Group CVMG

Choice Care

Cigna/ Greatwest

Delano Regional Medical Group

EHS IPA (Blue Cross Managed Medi-Cal Patients/Healthy Families)

Emmanuel Employee Benefit Plan

First Health/ CCN

Foundation HealthCare Administrators/ California Foundation for Medical Care

GemCare IPA/ Managed Care Systems

Health Net HMO/ PPO/ Healthy Families/ Healthy Kids

Health Net Medi-Cal / CalViva

Health Plan San Joaquin Medi-Cal/ Healthy Families

Hill Physician Medical Group

Interplan

Kaiser HMO/ Healthy Families/ Medi-Cal

Kern Health Systems Medi-Cal/ Healthy Families

Key /Mosaic Medical Group IPA

LaSalle IPA (Blue Cross Managed Medi-Cal)

Medicare

MediCal – California State

MedCore Medical Group

Multiplan/ PHCS

Sante IPA

Sutter Gould Medical Foundation

Sutter Hospital System (Modesto Memorial, Memorial Los Banos, Sutter Tracy)

TriWest (Formally TRICARE/CHAMPUS)

United HealthCare /PacifiCare

Universal Care

* Contracted Status subject to change. If you have questions or to verify coverage please call 559.353.8800/888.824.5439