## **NEONATOLOGY** Children's National Hospital

Nationally-ranked No. 2 in the nation and best in the Mid-Atlantic region by U.S. News and World Report, **THE DIVISION OF NEONATOLOGY** treats the sickest, most fragile babies with complex conditions in a compassionate and caring environment. The Children's National Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) is designated a Level IV NICU by the American Academy of Pediatrics, one of only a few Level IV units in the region, and the NICU team collaborates closely with experts from over 40 medical and surgical subspecialties.





## FEATURES

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team of neonatal specialists and nurses is ranked #2 nationally and best in the Mid-Atlantic region by U.S. News & World Report.

## The Children's <u>NNCC Prog</u>ram is

one of the longest-running and most experienced programs with whole-body cooling of infants with hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE), a therapy to minimize brain injury caused by lack of oxygen.

Through collaboration between the Neonatology Division and the Children's Rare Disease Institute, **the Neonatal Metabolic/ Genetic Program is the largest in North America.** 

The Neonatal Nutrition Program leads the Donor Milk Program, providing pasteurized donor milk for premature infants whose mothers cannot provide their own breast milk, **making it possible for all NICU babies to receive human milk.** 

# **SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS** in the Children's National Level IV NICU

#### **NEWBORN SURGERY**

The pediatric surgical and neonatology teams co-manage newborn patients with surgical conditions, providing each infant with comprehensive care. The surgical program at Children's National is the most active in the area, translating to superior expertise and making Children's National a premier referral NICU for infants born with surgical conditions in the region. Using advanced technology to carry out the most precise and effective procedures, Children's National surgeons perform a wide-range of minimally invasive surgeries on neonates, including procedures not available anywhere else in the region, offering the best change for optimal results and long-term health.

#### NEONATAL NEUROLOGY AND NEONATAL NEUROCRITICAL CARE (NNCC) PROGRAMS

The only program of its kind in the region, and one of only a dozen in the entire country, the Children's National Neonatal Neurology Program is comprised of seven specially trained and dedicated neonatal neurologists who evaluate one of every three infants admitted to the NICU. The NNCC provides neonates in the NICU access to the most advanced neurodiagnostic tools, including continuous digital EEG monitoring, three Tesla MRI scanners, cerebral near infrared resonance spectroscopy (NIRS) and an MRI-compatible incubator which allows for safe brain imaging in critically-ill babies.

Additionally, the Children's National Hemimegalencephaly Program cares for babies born with the rare condition causing uncontrollable seizures that injure their brain and disrupt their ability to function. Until recently, families had few treatment options for this condition, all involving major brain surgery to remove the part of the brain causing the seizures. But at Children's National, a successful alternative to major brain surgery for infants less than three months of age has been developed – making precise, controlled strokes in the baby's brain that mimics surgery to stop the seizures.

#### NEONATAL METABOLIC/GENETIC PROGRAM

This program provides complex care and diagnosis for infants born with either a genetic anomaly or inherited metabolic disorder. This program has pioneered many of the current therapies for infants with complex biochemical disorders and brings the newest treatment strategies to our patients. The Neonatal Program is the initial diagnostic and treatment program for these infants, who will continue care in the Rare Disease Institute after they graduate from neonatal care. This collaboration is also working towards novel treatments derived from patients with rare metabolic disorders than can help all premature and critically ill infants.

#### **BRONCHOPULMONARY DYSPLASIA**

The multidisciplinary bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD) team at Children's National includes specialists in pulmonary medicine, pulmonary hypertension and neonatology all focused on babies with severe, chronic lung disease. The team not only focuses on the child's survival and medical care, but they also focus on the neurodevelopmental and social care that a baby needs to thrive. From enhanced nutrition to occupational and physical therapy to a regular sleep cycle, the goal is to help these babies achieve their full potential.

#### EXTRACORPOREAL MEMBRANE OXYGENATION (ECMO) PROGRAM

In 1984, Children's National became the first children's hospital to offer Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) to act as an artificial set of heart and lungs, helping critically-ill infants breathe and maintain a healthy level of oxygen in their blood. Since then, Children's National ECMO Program has grown to one of the largest in the country for infants, and is designated an ECMO Center of Excellence by the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO).

#### **NEONATAL NUTRITION PROGRAM**

Children's National neonatal nutrition experts work closely with the NICU medical team to evaluate each baby's growth and nutrition. Part of a team of dedicated specialists, neonatal dieticians assess each infant's condition, growth and nutritional needs and then advise the medical team during hospitalization on the most appropriate way to provide nutrition. NICU dieticians also assist families with proper nutrition counseling as they get closer to discharge.

#### CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Child Development Program evaluates more than 1,500 children each year, from birth to 4 years of age, with developmental concerns, including: delays in cognitive, language, motor skills and attention, high risk for delay due to birth-related complications, medical or environmental circumstances, common behavioral problems such as feeding, sleep and temper tantrums, or self-regulation and atypical or uncommon patterns of development. Children's National Hospital (Level IV) 111 Michigan Ave. NW Washington, DC 20010

The Division of Neonatology extends its services to care for more neonatal patients in the region by partnering with several community hospitals in Virginia and Maryland.

George Washington University Hospital (Level III) 900 23rd St. NW Washington, DC 20037

Mary Washington Hospital (Level III) 1001 Sam Perry Blvd. Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Reston Hospital Center (Level III) 1850 Town Center Parkway Reston, VA 20190

Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center (Level II) 2300 Opitz Blvd. Woodbridge, VA 22191

Stafford Hospital (Level II) 101 Hospital Center Boulevard Stafford, VA 22554

Stone Springs Hospital Center (Level II)
24440 Stone Springs Blvd.
Dulles, VA 20166

• TidalHealth (Level II) 100 E. Carroll St. Salisbury, MD 21801

VHC Health (Level III) 1701 N. George Mason Dr. Arlington, VA 22205

### CONSULTATIONS & REFERRALS

For more information or to make an appointment, call **202–476–5448** 

For more information, visit ChildrensNational.org/Neonatology





ChildrensNational.org



