

Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Saint Louis University School of Medicine



The SLUCare Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital is known for excellent outcomes and innovative clinical research efforts.

It has been ranked among the best in the nation for several consecutive years by U.S. News & World Report's annual ranking of "Best Children's Hospitals in America" and receives referrals from throughout the Midwest and across the country for a wide range of pediatric conditions.

Nationally Recognized Neuro-gastroenterology and Pediatric Motility Center

As one of only a few centers in the United States to offer the full range of diagnostic testing for patients with GI motility disorders, the SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital's Neuro-gastroenterology and Pediatric Motility Center is widely recognized for its expertise in caring for young patients with GI tract dysfunctions. In just the past year, the center's volume has more than tripled in the number of children seen for conditions such as severe constipation, fecal incontinence, achalasia, anorectal abnormalities, dysphagia, gastroparesis and other GI tract dysfunctions. The center offers high-resolution diagnostic tests, including esophageal, antroduodenal (AD) and anorectal manometry as well as intensive colonic manometry. Individualized treatment options include biofeedback and pelvic floor training, balloon dilation, Botox® therapy and surgical procedures.

Liver Diseases

From biliary atresia and alpha-1 antitrypsin (AAT) deficiency to nonalcoholic fatty liver disease and hepatitis, the liver disease specialists within the division are internationally respected for both clinical research and patient care for inherited and chronic liver diseases. The hospital is one of only seven pediatric hospitals within the NIH-funded Hepatitis B Research Network and has been a major site for clinical trials and treatments for children diagnosed with Hepatitis C. Faculty currently are involved in several new research studies, including several for AAT deficiency. For the treatment of biliary atresia, a rare condition in newborns, two-year post-surgery outcomes for the Kasai procedure consistently have been above national benchmarks since 2013.

Liver Transplantation

With a long-standing track record of excellent outcomes in liver transplantation, the SLUCare transplant team at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon is in the midst of groundbreaking research investigating a new biomarker, Cytokeratin 18, which could potentially detect early liver transplant rejection. If proven, the biomarker may lead to the development of a simple blood test that could replace the standard tissue biopsy to check for rejection. The transplant team consistently achieves and exceeds national survival benchmarks in the program and is one of only 42 centers worldwide participating in the international Studies of Pediatric Liver Transplantation (SPLIT) collaborative research group.

For clinical consultations with our faculty, call the SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Access Center at **1-888-229-2424**.

The Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital has six board-certified physicians who are members of SLUCare Physician Group, the clinical practice of Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

Together with nurse practitioners, registered nurses, a dietitian, psychologist and a social worker, the team provides care to young patients diagnosed with:

- >> Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency
- >> Biliary atresia
- >> Celiac disease
- >> Crohn's disease
- >> Childhood obesity
- >> Eosinophilic esophagitis
- >> Fatty liver disease
- >> Hepatitis B and C
- >> Inflammatory bowel diseases
- >> Liver failure
- >> Motility and neuro-gastroenterology disorders
- >> Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)
- >> Nutritional deficiencies due to liver/gut injuries or disorders, including short bowel syndrome
- >> Ulcerative colitis



Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Center

Growing expertise and excellent outcomes in the treatment of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and other inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) has led to an expansion of the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital over the past year. The center sees more than 200 children annually and is part of the ImproveCareNow Collaborative research network that is investigating new treatment options. Currently, the center is involved in a new IBD clinical trial investigating new medications. Reported outcomes for treatments are above national benchmarks, with more than 90% of patients successfully able to receive adequate nutrition and 95% of patients off prednisone following best practices. The multidisciplinary team in the center includes pediatric gastroenterologists, surgeons and radiologists as well as nurse practitioners, researcher coordinators and a dietitian, psychologist and social worker.

Specialized nutrition services, including multi-disciplinary short bowel syndrome treatment

SLUCare gastroenterologists and hepatologists oversee one of the few NIH-funded centers for childhood nutrition care at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. Our specialists are internationally recognized for the care of children with short bowel syndrome, intestinal dysfunction and other nutrition disorders. They also lead the **Glennon Intestinal Rehabilitation and Feeding (GIRAF)** service. This year, the hospital is the first in the nation to launch a clinical trial investigating a novel strategy to minimize serious complications of long-term total parenteral nutrition (TPN) therapy. The study could lead to the development of new therapeutics to prevent major complications of TPN use, such as liver damage.

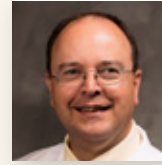
Childhood Obesity

Under way at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital is new research into childhood obesity focusing on appetite and the mechanisms that influence over-eating. The hospital has an established Healthy First Bariatric Surgery Program for teens and young adults between the ages of 13 and 21. In addition, the hospital offers a pediatric weight management program that focuses on healthy lifestyle choices and support services needed to help young patients and their families with long-term weight loss and management.

For patient appointments, call **314-268-4010**.

Pediatricians at the SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital are faculty of Saint Louis University School of Medicine and members of SLUCare Physician Group, the clinical arm of Saint Louis University School of Medicine. The hospital is the only free-standing, not-for-profit Catholic pediatric hospital in the United States and is a member of SSM Health, one of the largest Catholic health care systems in the country. For more information about the hospital, visit cardinalglennon.com.

SLUCare Division of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology Faculty



Jeffrey Teckman, MD

Director of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Inaugural Drs. James & Patricia Monteleone Endowed Chair in

Pediatric Gastroenterology
Professor of Pediatrics and Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Ajay Jain, MD

Medical Director, Pediatric Liver Transplant Program
Chair, Nutritional Advisory Committee
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Nisha Mangalat, MD

Program Director, Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

* The fellowship program accepts one fellow annually

Caroline Meyer, MD

Co-Director, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Helen Pappa, MD

Medical Director, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Dhiren Patel, MD

Medical Director, Neuro-Gastroenterology & Pediatric Motility Center
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Saint Louis University School of Medicine

