

Division of Pediatric Nephrology

SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, St. Louis, MO



With five board-certified pediatric nephrologists, as well as experienced and dedicated nursing teams focused on general nephrology, dialysis and renal transplant, the Division of Pediatric Nephrology at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital oversees a nationally recognized kidney transplant program, a major pediatric dialysis center, a hypertension program and clinics for the diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of complex and chronic kidney diseases.

Chronic Kidney Disease

Nephrologists see infants, children and adolescents diagnosed with acute and chronic glomerular and tubular disorders; congenital and hereditary renal disorders; or renal diseases caused by systemic lupus erythematosus, diabetes or vasculitis. They also treat children with kidney stones, urinary tract infections and hypertension.

Nephrologists are actively involved in the NIH-funded Cure GN multicenter research effort, which focuses on identifying the genetic basis for rare kidney diseases, such as minimal change disease, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), IgA nephropathy and membranous nephropathy, along with identifying biomarkers associated with response to treatment.

The team also is part of the Nephrotoxic Acute Kidney Injury (NAKI) Pioneer Cohort, a collaborative effort with the Children's Hospital Association's Solutions for Patient Safety program to better monitor children at risk for nephrotoxic medication exposure. Because children on three or more nephrotoxic medications have a high risk of developing acute kidney injury, which can lead to chronic kidney disease, participating hospitals are implementing and evaluating new screening criteria developed at Cincinnati Children's Hospital for early detection of AKI.

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

Kidney Transplantation

SSM Health Cardinal Glennon offers living and deceased donor transplants for patients with renal failure. Kidney graft and transplant survival rates are excellent, with the team meeting or exceeding national averages for the past several years. The hospital is a member of the North American Pediatric Renal Trials and Collaborative Studies network and is one of only 26 centers in the country participating in the Improving Renal Outcomes Collaborative (IROC). Through IROC, clinical researchers have now standardized blood pressure protocols across 16 pediatric transplant centers, enabling more accurate assessments and early identification of hypertension and are working to reduce transplant rejection and improve overall patient and allograft outcomes.



Pediatric Dialysis

The pediatric dialysis program at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon offers a full range of renal replacement therapies, including acute and chronic hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis as well as continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT). As one of only 44 centers in the United States participating in the Standardized Care to Improve Outcomes in Pediatric End Stage Renal Disease (SCOPE), the dialysis team has implemented evidence-based quality and safety improvement efforts to reduce hospital readmissions and the risk of catheter-related infections in young children. As a result of the sharing of best practices among SCOPE participating centers, peritonitis rates in the centers have dropped 41% and blood stream infections have decreased by 47.5%.

Hypertension

The multidisciplinary Comprehensive Hypertension Clinic, which is overseen by division nephrologists, sees several hundred patients annually for diagnosis and treatment of hypertension. SLUCare nephrologists also offer ambulatory blood pressure monitoring services to evaluate children away from the stress of a doctor's office or hospital, which can temporarily affect blood pressure readings.

Clinical Research

The division is involved in several NIH, multicenter and industry-sponsored clinical trials to enhance diagnosis and treatment of kidney diseases. A renal research nurse coordinates patient enrollment and database management for the studies. Among the trials under way are those investigating hyperkalemia or rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis.

SLUCare Division of Pediatric Nephrology Faculty



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19 nurses also staff the Division of Pediatric Nephrology's clinical, dialysis and transplant teams.

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.

