

HEART INSTITUTE



The Heart Institute at Children's Hospital Los Angeles is the largest pediatric cardiac center in the Western United States and has expertise handling all forms of pediatric and congenital heart disease, from the most common to the rarest and most complex cases. There is no cardiac condition that the Institute's specialists cannot treat.

Beginning with the first pediatric heart surgery in the Western U.S. in the 1930s, the Heart Institute has a history of treating small hearts with big problems. Nearly a century later, the Institute is renowned for taking the most challenging cases and maintaining impressive health outcomes.

We provide a fully integrated suite of inpatient and outpatient services that brings together experts in cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, cardiothoracic transplant, cardiac intensive care, cardiac acute care, cardiac anesthesia and cardiovascular rehabilitation in one centralized location. The Heart Institute's scope of care ranges from treating babies in the womb to adolescents and young adults with heart defects, ensuring all patients can live up to their full potential.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery

The Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery is one of the most robust programs of its kind in the nation, performing more than 900 heart surgeries every year. Our cardiothoracic surgeons are renowned for using innovative pediatric surgical techniques, many of which were pioneered at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and have been adopted at hospitals across the country.

Division of Cardiology

The Division of Cardiology cares for children with heart or blood vessel problems and is a leader in advanced evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of all forms of pediatric heart disease. Our state-of-the-art cardiac catheterization lab uses the latest technology to provide clear, accurate data while reducing the radiation required for minimally invasive procedures such as angioplasty, valvuloplasty and stent insertion.

Heart Transplant Program

More than 25 years ago, Children's Hospital Los Angeles established the first dedicated Heart Transplant Program at a freestanding pediatric hospital in Southern California. Our surgeons have experience performing transplants in young patients who have a variety of complex, high-risk conditions. Specialists provide complete pre-transplant evaluations and manage the needs of patients and their families throughout the process of awaiting and receiving a transplant. Our post-transplant success is exemplary and is achieved by a coordinated team of specialists.

Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit (CTICU)

Our CTICU was the first of its kind in the Western United States. More than half of the unit's patients are newborns with congenital heart conditions, many of whom require innovative treatments. Novel technologies—along with the attentive care of dedicated specialists and nurses—give patients the best possible chance to achieve a full recovery as quickly as possible. The CTICU has received the prestigious Gold Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

Among other specialties, the Institute is home to the:

- Cardiac Electrophysiology and Device Program
- Complex Congenital Heart Disease Program
- Cardiomyopathy and Heart Failure Program
- Fetal Cardiology Program
- Single Ventricle Program
- Ventricular Assist Devices Program

ACCOLADES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Heart Institute at Children's Hospital Los Angeles is a preeminent referral center for diseases of the heart and circulation in childhood, attracting families from across the United States and around the world. Each component of care has been designed with children and families in mind.

- The Heart Institute is consistently recognized as a top 10 pediatric cardiac program by U.S. News & World Report, which ranks institutions based on patient survival rates after complex surgeries, number of specialized staff, services and technologies, and commitment to best practices.
- The Heart Institute has been a leader in pediatric cardiac care for nearly 90 years and has achieved many firsts, including performing the first pediatric open-heart surgery in Southern California, having the first dedicated pediatric cardiothoracic intensive care unit in the Western U.S., and performing the first multilobar lung transplant from living parents to a child with cystic fibrosis.
- The Heart Institute's physician-scientists and researchers are involved in more than 100 current research endeavors, publishing their work in more than 60 publications annually. Team members are engaged in several national and international multicenter trials testing novel treatments for childhood heart disease, including using stem cell injections to grow new heart muscle, and gene therapies for disorders of the heart and circulation.
- The ECMO Program has been honored with the prestigious Award for Excellence in Life Support by the Extracorporeal Life Support Organization, an international group of health care professionals who evaluate hospital treatment therapies for patients fighting complex cardiac disease and respiratory failure.
- The Fetal Cardiology Program, which is dedicated to diagnosing babies with heart defects before birth, is one of the most sophisticated programs of its kind in California. Every year, our experts participate in more than 600 outpatient consultations to diagnose neonatal heart defects. The team also provides customized treatment plans, so expectant mothers receive personalized care during pregnancy, delivery and after their baby arrives.
- The Cardiogenomics Program is the only multidisciplinary clinic of its kind in Southern California providing comprehensive care for children and adolescents with suspected genetic or inherited cardiac conditions. Using genetic testing, specialists in cardiology and genetics collaborate to identify children at risk for life-threatening heart conditions, provide family education and implement preventative therapies.



REFERRALS, ADMISSIONS AND TRANSPORT SERVICES

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