Children’s Hospital Los Angeles is the top-ranked children’s hospital on the West Coast for gastroenterology care on U.S. News & World Report’s Best Children’s Hospitals survey. Our pediatric gastroenterologists use the latest diagnostic techniques and technology to provide care for thousands of children each year.

The Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition takes a comprehensive approach to caring for patients with gastrointestinal, liver and nutritional disorders. Clinical services include:

- Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic
- A complete nutrition support service including management of intestinal failure
- Liver and intestinal transplantation
- Fecal microbiota transplant for C Diff

Commonly treated disorders include:

- Acute and chronic liver diseases
- Aerodigestive disorders
- Allergic enteropathy including eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders
- Anorectal malformation disorders
- Celiac disease
- Inflammatory bowel disease including Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis
- Intestinal failure
- Neurogastroenterology and GI motility disorders
- Obesity-related fatty liver disease (NASH)
- Pancreatitis
Tanaz Farzan Danialifar, MD  
Director of Resident and Medical Student Education; Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC  
**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, motility disorders

Rula Harb, MD  
Director of Education and Gastroenterology Fellowship Program; Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles  
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**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease

Kattayoun Kordy, MD  
Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC  
**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, fatty liver disease

Chuan-Hao Lin, MD  
Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles  
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC  
**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease, hepatitis B and C, pediatric hepatology and liver transplant

Russell J. Merritt, MD, PhD  
Director of Research and Medical Director, Nutrition Support Team and Intestinal Rehabilitation; Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles  
Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC  
**Specialties:** Intestinal rehabilitation, feeding and nutrition

Sonia Michail, MD  
Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles  
Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC  
**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease, fecal microbiota transplant
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position and Specialties</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hillel Naon, MD</td>
<td>Associate Division Head and Director of Clinical Operations; Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles; Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Specialties: Pediatric gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Pietzak, MD</td>
<td>Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles; Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Specialties: Celiac disease, pediatric gastroenterology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brent Polk, MD</td>
<td>Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles; Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Specialties: Pediatric gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaya B. Punati, MD</td>
<td>Associate Director of Clinical Operations and Medical Director, Pediatric Gastrointestinal Neuromuscular and Motility Disorders Program; Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles; Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Specialties: Pediatric gastroenterology, motility disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Sinatra, MD</td>
<td>Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles; Professor of Pediatrics and Assistant Dean for Faculty Development, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Specialty: Pediatric gastroenterology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nisreen Soufi, MD</td>
<td>Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles; Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Specialties: Pediatric gastroenterology, transplant hepatology</td>
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**Physicians (continued)**

**Daniel Thomas, MD**
Director, Hepatology; Medical Director of Liver and Intestinal Transplant, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

**Specialties:** Transplant hepatology, inflammatory bowel disease

**Ardath Yamaga, MD**
Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

**Specialty:** Pediatric gastroenterology

**George Yanni, MD**
Director of Transplant Hepatology Fellowship Program; Attending Physician, Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, transplant hepatology, intestinal rehabilitation, inflammatory bowel disease

**Yuhua Zheng, MD, MS**
Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC

**Specialties:** Pediatric gastroenterology, inflammatory bowel disease

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**Programs and Services**

- Advanced pediatric endoscopic procedures (including ERCP, EUS, DBE), diagnostic tests and treatments
- Aerodigestive Program
- Celiac Disease Clinic
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease Clinic
- Intestinal Rehabilitation Program
- Liver and Intestinal Transplant Program
- Gastrointestinal Neuromuscular and Motility Disorders Program

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**Awards and Recognitions**

Ranked No. 9 in the nation for pediatric gastroenterology and GI surgery by U.S. News & World Report