

CHILDREN'S ORTHOPAEDIC CENTER



For children with an orthopaedic condition, nothing is more important than seeking care from a pediatric specialist. Unlike adults, children have growth plates that are still open, increasing their risk for a fracture or other serious injury while their bones are still growing. Delayed or improper treatment from a medical provider without extra pediatric training can mean the difference between making a full recovery and suffering long-term side effects.

Experts at the Children's Orthopaedic Center at Children's Hospital Los Angeles have experience treating children with the full spectrum of orthopaedic conditions—including broken bones, spine disorders, neuromuscular weakness, tumors and hip, hand and joint abnormalities—and work to promote a full and speedy recovery so that patients can lead active, healthy lives.

The Center brings together Board-certified orthopaedic surgeons, orthopaedic nurses, physician assistants, rehabilitation specialists, physical therapists and other caregivers who conduct nearly 38,000 patient visits and 2,100 surgeries every year. The team's treatment plans, which are tailored to each child's unique condition, produce some of the best surgical outcomes in the country, from fewer complications and shorter hospital stays to fewer blood transfusions and low infection rates.

PROGRAMS AND CENTERS

Children's Spine Center

Approximately 300 pediatric spine treatments are performed at our hospital every year, and patients recover faster and have extremely low rates of complications after surgery compared to the national average. Few hospitals in the country can match this level of experience.

Pediatric Orthopaedic Neuromuscular Program

Children with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease or other neuromuscular disorders receive integrated care, which includes physical therapy, bracing, gait analysis and movement control. The Neuromuscular Program's specialists diagnose and treat approximately 400 children every month, working closely with hand and upper extremity experts, neurologists and other departments as needed.

Hip Preservation Program

Hip problems don't just affect older people. In fact, approximately 1 in 10 infants have hip instability, and 1 in 100 infants receive treatment for hip dysplasia, the medical term for loose, unstable hip joints. The Hip Preservation Program specializes in treating these conditions, along with Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease, using non-surgical techniques and surgery, and is the only comprehensive pediatric program of its kind in Los Angeles County.

Sports Medicine Program and the Motion and Sports Analysis Laboratory

Broken bones, concussions, ligament tears, dislocations, stress fractures and sprains are just a few of the injuries the Sports Medicine team treats to help young athletes get back in the game quickly and safely. In the John C. Wilson Jr. Motion and Sports Analysis Laboratory, a 10-camera motion capture system evaluates both athletes and patients with neuromuscular disorders via strategically placed sensors on the body and force plates embedded in the floor. This

technology makes diagnoses and surgical plans more precise, and has shown to reduce a patient's risk of needing a second surgery by 50% in the first five years following surgery.

The Center also houses the Bone and Soft Tissue Tumor Program, Hand and Upper Extremity Orthopaedic Program, the Brachial Plexus and Peripheral Nerve Program, and the Comprehensive Clubfoot Clinic.

ACCOLADES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Children's Orthopaedic Center is a preeminent referral center, attracting families from across the country and around the world. Each component of care—from clinical equipment and surgical techniques to psychosocial support and rehabilitation—has been designed with children in mind.

- The Center is consistently recognized as a top 10 pediatric orthopaedic program by U.S. News & World Report, which issues rankings based on an institution's clinical volumes, metrics and reputation.
- Patients at Children's Hospital Los Angeles are treated using the latest, safest technology, including EOS imaging, which uses up to 95% less radiation than standard X-rays.
- The Center's experts are at the forefront of creating new protocols that are adopted globally. One innovative procedure pioneered at CHLA was the use of magnetic-controlled rods, which are used to straighten the spine of scoliosis patients without invasive follow-up surgery. The rods, which are lengthened magnetically as the patient grows, eliminate the need for multiple operations that traditional rods require.
- The Motion and Sports Analysis Laboratory was the first gait lab in California to receive full accreditation from the Commission for Motion Laboratory Accreditation, a distinction held by fewer than 20 labs nationwide. It is also one of the few motion labs in the country with a mobile unit that brings assessment services directly to schools as well as club and recreational sports teams.
- Approximately 190 research studies are currently underway, all aimed at identifying better ways to diagnose orthopaedic conditions, making treatments more effective and maximizing results. The team's research findings are routinely featured in prestigious medical publications such as the Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics and the Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma.
- The Center has one of the largest education programs in the Western U.S., training more than 35 residents and international fellows annually who contribute a valuable, diverse perspective to our clinic.



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