

Hospitalist Program

Pediatric Hospitalist Program

Your child's primary care physician has chosen to use the Pediatric Hospitalist program at Huntsville Hospital for Women & Children to care for your child during his or her hospital stay. Our hospitalists work closely with your physician to ensure the best possible care for your child from admission to discharge and follow-up.

What is a pediatric hospitalist?

A pediatric hospitalist is a highly trained, hospital based physician who oversees the care of children in the hospital. The Pediatric Hospitalist program at Huntsville Hospital for Women & Children includes experienced physicians and certified nurse practitioners.

What do hospitalists do?

The hospitalist will direct any medical care that is needed during your child's hospital stay. The goal of the hospitalist is to provide the safest, most effective care possible. The hospitalist may order lab tests, imaging studies or other tests needed to evaluate your child's condition. They also consult with pediatric specialists as needed. When your child is ready to go home, the hospitalist will help prepare you and your child for discharge.

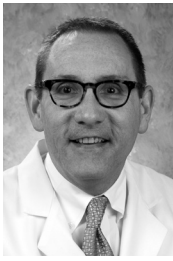
Will my physician know that my child is in the hospital?

Yes, the hospitalist will notify your child's physician within 24 hours of admission. The hospitalist will keep your child's physician informed during the hospital stay and upon discharge. They will communicate more frequently with your child's physician if there are significant changes in your child's health or at the request of your physician.

How to contact the hospitalist

Ask your child's nurse, or any member of the health care team, if you want or need to talk with the hospitalist. The hospitalist team will visit your child daily and more often as needed.





Dr. Mark Sapp is the Medical Director of the Huntsville Hospital Pediatric Hospitalist team. He graduated from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham and completed his residency at New England Medical Center. Dr. Sapp completed a fellowship in pediatric hematology/oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and a research fellowship at Rockefeller University. He also completed a fellowship in pediatric neuro-oncology at New York University Medical Center and a fellowship in general pediatrics / child advocacy / child protection at Children's Hospital Boston. Dr. Sapp is board certified in general pediatrics.



Dr. Lorie Dawson graduated from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham. She completed her residency at Emory University School of Medicine and 20 months of a pediatric endocrinology fellowship. Dr. Dawson is board certified in general pediatrics.



Dr. Laurie Imsand graduated from the University of South Alabama. She completed her residency at the University of Tennessee and has worked at LeBonheur Pediatric Hospital in Memphis, TN. Dr. Imsand is board certified in general pediatrics.



Dr. Emily Ladner graduated from Creighton University School of Medicine. She completed her residency at the University of Louisville and has worked at Kosair Children's Hospital in Louisville, KY. Dr. Ladner is board certified in general pediatrics.



Dr. Alice McDuffee graduated from the University of South Alabama. She completed her residency in pediatrics and a fellowship in pediatric critical care at Vanderbilt University. For the last 14 years she has served as a pediatric intensivist (physician specializing in the care of pediatric ICU patients) at Huntsville Hospital for Women & Children. Dr. McDuffee is board certified in general pediatrics and in pediatric critical care medicine.



Dr. Kelli Stringer graduated from the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham. She completed her residency at the University of Alabama in Birmingham in the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Stringer is board certified in general pediatrics.



Kellie Anderson, CRNP, graduated from the University of South Alabama. She has been a pediatric nurse for 15 years. She has worked as a nurse practitioner at Children's Hospital of Alabama and in private practice.



Christy Bitzer, CRNP, graduated from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. She has been a pediatric nurse for 9 years. She has worked as a nurse practitioner at Huntsville Hospital in the Emergency Department.



Kendrea Looney, CRNP, graduated from the University of South Alabama. She has been a pediatric nurse for 8 years. She has worked as a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at UAB Hospital in Birmingham.



Patti Meiers, CRNP, graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She has been a pediatric nurse for 14 years. She has worked as a nurse in pediatric intensive care units at Children's Hospital in Birmingham and at Huntsville Hospital for Women & Children.