

Growth Disorders



At the Center for Growth Disorders at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, pediatric endocrinologists and genetic specialists provide comprehensive, multidisciplinary care for children with severe growth failure. Working in close collaboration with basic scientists, they are gaining new insights about growth biology and the genetic causes of short stature. This, coupled with the use of whole-genome sequencing, can mean more effective, targeted therapies for patients.

CONTACT US

For patient referrals and non-urgent consultation during business hours, contact the program directly at:

Phone: **1-513-636-8456**

Email: growth@cchmc.org

www.cincinnatichildrens.org/growth-disorders

CONDITIONS TREATED

- Severe growth failure (≥ 2.5 standard deviations below the norm)
- Growth hormone deficiency
- Growth hormone insensitivity syndromes
- Small size for gestational age
- Idiopathic short stature/genetic forms of short stature

HOW WE'RE DIFFERENT

- Our team has a deep understanding of growth disorders, and extensive experience in treating these rare conditions. In addition to treatment of various disorders with growth hormone, our clinical expertise extends to the safe and effective use of IGF-I therapy for patients with IGF-I deficiency.
- In contrast to traditional workups, which frequently fail to yield definitive answers, our evaluation strategy uses next-generation sequencing technology and a custom bioinformatics pipeline. The ExomeSeq can sequence the entire exome—approximately 20,000 protein-encoding genes. Clinical and molecular geneticists in the medical center's human genetics department interpret the results, which the team uses to create a personalized treatment plan.
- We invite patients to enroll in research studies at the center, which provides them with access to the latest diagnostic tools and therapies. Their participation may also allow us to evaluate their DNA samples even more closely in search of genetic abnormalities.



Cincinnati Children's is ranked #3 in Diabetes & Endocrinology and #3 in the nation among Honor Roll hospitals.



TREATMENT APPROACH

Our team provides comprehensive care for children at the Center for Growth Disorders at Cincinnati Children's. We also offer consultation for patients who cannot come to Cincinnati, and collaborate with referring physicians to develop a treatment plan.

Patients who visit the center are seen by a pediatric endocrinologist and genetic specialist. The initial workup includes:

- A comprehensive medical evaluation, including lab tests
- Detailed measurements of height, weight and body proportions
- DNA testing using blood and/or saliva samples, if needed
- A family conference with a genetic counselor

Because of the potential for hereditary patterns of disease, we encourage family members to submit DNA samples for evaluation as well.

TREATMENT TEAM

Endocrinology

Iris Gutmark, Little, MD
Pediatric Endocrinology

Gajanthan Muthuvel, MD
Fellow, Pediatric Endocrinology

Leah Tyzinski
Research Coordinator

Nursing

Lori Casnellie, RN
Clinic Coordinator

For urgent issues, or to speak with the specialist on call 24/7, call the Physician Priority Link® at 1-888-987-7997.

For international inquiries, call +1-513-636-3100 or email international@cchmc.org.



Number of countries represented by our patients

200

Number of physicians outside of Cincinnati Children's who have referred patients to the Center since it opened in 2014

>50%

Percentage of our patients whose growth disorder has been linked to a genetic cause following genetic testing, including whole-exome sequencing

20,000+

Number of genes that ExomeSeq examines for growth disorders