

# Pediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders

Unique collaborative pediatric program combines the strengths of two premier specialty centers.



Roswell Park, upstate New York's only **National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated** Comprehensive Cancer Center, joins forces with Oishei Children's Hospital, the only **standalone children's hospital** in the WNY region.

Multidisciplinary team of **specialty-trained clinicians and support staff**, from physicians, nurse practitioners and nurses, psychologists and social workers, patient navigators and case managers, specializing in all areas of pediatric oncology and hematology

## What Sets Us Apart

- **Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell therapies.** We are the only pediatric program in upstate New York to offer these promising new FDA-approved immunotherapy treatments for relapsed leukemia and lymphoma.
- **Expanded Blood & Marrow Transplant** program now provides stem cell and marrow transplants to children of all ages for treatment of cancer, sickle cell anemia, immune disorders and other nonmalignant disorders.
- **Experimental Therapeutics** program offers NCI-sponsored, Children's Oncology Group, pharmaceutical and investigator initiated clinical trials of novel agents specifically for children with cancer and blood disorders.
- **Comprehensive molecular testing** with OmniSeq Comprehensive™ and Immune Report Card™ to match personalized therapy to patients.
- **Outpatient erythrocytapheresis** and other chronic transfusion therapies for sickle cell diseases, thalassemias, and other severe anemias.

## Streamlined Coordination of Care



While the joint pediatric program has provided high-quality hematology and oncology care for decades, with the newly built John R. Oishei Children's Hospital (OCH) joining Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, we saw an opportunity for a consolidated and more efficient Pediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders program built on the unique services and expertise of each institution.

### THE NEW PROGRAM WILL RESULT IN:

- **Increased collaboration on best practices and quality assurance across the continuum of inpatient and outpatient pediatric cancer care.**
- **Development of new specialized programs for pediatric cancers and blood disorders.**



## Our Approach to Care

Our patients will have streamlined access to the clinical and support services of both centers. In general, surgery and inpatient care including blood and marrow transplants will take place at Oishei Children's Hospital; and outpatient chemotherapy and infusions, radiotherapy and radiosurgery will take place at Roswell Park. We also collaborate with the Hemophilia Center of Western New York for patients with more severe bleeding and thrombotic conditions.



### AT JOHN R. OISHEI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL Ralph C. Wilson, Jr Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Suite

- Inpatient oncology and hematology unit offers full environmental protection for our patients, providing these severely immune-compromised children with the safest infrastructure for care.
- Children have full access to their unit's hallways and playroom, an important component of maintaining their psychosocial and physical health, rather than confined to their own room.
- Pediatric surgical units are uniquely designed for the youngest patients.
- Advanced imaging and testing with support by pediatric staff.
- Full array of pediatric subspecialty services including critical care expertise are available on site.

### AT ROSWELL PARK COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER Katherine, Anne & Donna Gioia Pediatric Hematology Oncology Center

- New outpatient center brings all ambulatory services for childhood cancer and blood disorders to one location, centralizing care that previously was delivered in two outpatient centers.
- Gamma Knife radiosurgery and conventional radiation therapy. Roswell Park is the only regional provider performing cranial radiosurgery with Gamma Knife.
- Blood & Marrow Transplant program recognized as Blue Distinction Center by BlueCross BlueShield Association.
- Specialized multidisciplinary pediatric programs for Sickle Cell and Thalassemia, Thrombosis Clinic, and Pediatric Cancer Susceptibility Screening.
- Covered access to the center from the parking ramp via an all-weather bridge connector.
- Access to innovative therapies through our expanding portfolio of clinical trials specifically for pediatric patients.

## Support Services

**Pediatric, Adolescent and Young Adult Survivorship Program** to manage health conditions related to hormone, cardiac, low bone density and thyroid issues; address ongoing or late effects of treatment, such as anxiety or fertility concerns; provide social support, guidance and legal and financial assistance; and to aim for a higher level of lifelong wellness.

**Integrative Medicine** program for young patients and their families to ease the impact of cancer treatment. Modalities include acupuncture, acupressure, massage therapy, reflexology, aromatherapy and mind-body therapy.

**Pediatric Psychology, Social Work and Child Life Specialists** dedicated to the outpatient and inpatient pediatric cancer and blood disorders centers.

**Patient Navigator** for our Sickle Cell and Thalassemia Program.

**Courage of Carly Fund (Roswell Park) and Stone's Buddies (OCH)** provide support, events and outings for families with a child facing cancer or other chronic, life-threatening illness.



# Meet the Team

Our physicians are academic teaching faculty of the Jacob School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of the University at Buffalo. Our physicians are also members of UBMD Pediatrics, one of 18 practice plans that make up UB Physicians' Group, the single largest medical group in WNY, or members of the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center faculty practice plan, and are board certified in pediatric hematology/oncology.



- 1 Kara Kelly, MD**  
Pediatric Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma  
Waldemar J. Kaminski Endowed Chair of Pediatrics  
Division Chief, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
- 2 Steven Ambrusko, MD, MS**  
Pediatric Hematology – Sickle cell and Thalassemia,  
Vascular Anomalies, General Hematology
- 3 Barbara Bambach, MD**  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma,  
Blood & Marrow Transplantation
- 4 Matthew Barth, MD**  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma
- 5 Lorna Fitzpatrick, MD**  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Neuro-Oncology and  
Neurofibromatosis
- 6 Meghan Higman, MD, PhD**  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Leukemia/Lymphoma,  
Blood & Marrow Transplantation
- 7 Shilpa Jain, MD, MPH**  
Pediatric Hematology – Hemophilia, General Hematology
- 8 Denise Rokitka, MD, MPH**  
Pediatric Hematology/Oncology – Solid Tumors  
Pediatric, Adolescent and Young Adult Survivorship Program
- 9 Beverly Schaefer, MD**  
Pediatric Hematology – Thromboses, General Hematology
- 10 Clare Twist, MD, MS**  
Pediatric Oncology – Solid Tumors, Experimental Therapeutics
- 11 Brandee Aquilino, PsyD**  
Pediatric Psychology, Katherine, Anne & Donna Gioia  
Pediatric Hematology Oncology Center
- 12 Catherine Flanagan-Priore, PhD**  
Pediatric Psychology  
Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Suite

## About Us

We are a full member of the NCI-sponsored Children's Oncology Group and our physicians take part in and lead national studies for childhood cancer. We are a New York State Hemoglobinopathy Newborn Screening Program referral center. We are a FACT-accredited blood and marrow transplantation program.



## CANCER AND BLOOD DISORDERS PROGRAM

Elm & Carlton Streets | Buffalo, New York 14263  
[www.RoswellPark.org/rpmd](http://www.RoswellPark.org/rpmd) | 716-845-RPMD (716-845-7763)