



## NEONATAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Children's Minnesota neonatology program encompasses the largest high-risk neonatal care program in the Upper Midwest. Our fetal intervention program is nationally recognized for exceptional clinical outcomes. We are committed to consistent care across the community, limiting unnecessary variation, identifying and spreading best practices, and rapidly addressing opportunities for improvement.

- The largest high-risk neonatal care program in the region with nearly **200 neonatal beds**. We care for babies born with congenital abnormalities and various critical special needs.
- **A comprehensive care team** including neonatologists, neonatal nurse practitioners, nurses, respiratory therapists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, pharmacists, social workers and music therapists.
- **500+ babies transported** annually by the Neonatal Transport Team. Babies are transported by helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft and specialized critical care ground transportation with in-route capability for full ventilatory and hemodynamic support, body cooling and ECMO.
- **Three Mother Baby Centers** that combine Allina Health's fetal and maternal services with Children's Minnesota neonatal and pediatric specialty care.
- **24/7 NICU coverage** by neonatologists and neonatal nurse practitioners.
- **24/7 Neonatal Virtual Care for regional community hospitals**, a technology that allows critical audio/video consultations during stabilization of newborns.

## The largest high-risk neonatal care program in the upper Midwest.

### Diagnostic, medical and surgical services provided:

- Cardiovascular evaluation and treatment
- Cardiac surgery for complex cardiac anomalies and ECMO
- Developmental assessment and therapy
- Diagnostic testing
  - Apnea testing
  - At-home apnea monitoring
  - Hearing screenings
  - Infant pulmonary function testing
  - Ophthalmologic and retinal services, including retinopathy screening
- Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO)
- Fetal program support
- Dedicated pediatric surgical specialties
- High-risk delivery attendance
- Infant massage and music therapy
- Therapeutic hypothermia for babies with hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy (HIE)
- Consultative support for high-risk perinatal patients
- Intensive Care Follow-up Clinic
- Neurologic monitoring and care
- Neuro-intensive care program
- Nutritional consultation and care
- PDA transcatheter closure using the Amplatzer™ Piccolo Occluder for pre-term infants
- Pediatric anesthesia
- Respiratory support
  - Inhaled nitric oxide therapy
  - Noninvasive, conventional and high-frequency ventilation
- Specialized care and follow up of newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS)

# MEET THE NEONATOLOGISTS

We think of our team as a family, caring for other families. That means we work closely with referring physicians as well as parents to deliver the best care for babies in need. As one of the largest neonatal teams in the region, we're able to care for the most acutely ill newborns. Our Level IV NICU in Minneapolis and Level III NICUs in St. Paul and Coon Rapids help us provide the best care for fragile babies. We offer 24/7 access to a neonatologist so physicians can consult with our team on urgent needs. And to support families on their journey, we provide child life specialists, dietitians, music therapists, neonatal nurse practitioners, respiratory therapists, social workers, spiritual counselors and more.

Our team partners with the childbirth experts at The Mother Baby Center, a collaboration between Allina Health and Children's Minnesota. The partnership helps us deliver consistent, high-quality care while limiting unnecessary variation and making swift improvements in best practices.



## **Thomas George, MD, FAAP**

System Medical Director, Neonatology

Sit Investment Associates Endowed Chair in Neonatology

Dr. George joined Children's Minnesota in October 2018. Previously, Dr. George held the position of director of clinical services for the division of neonatology at the University of Minnesota, medical director of the NICU at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital, Fairview Southdale and Ridges Hospitals, and associate director of the Pediatric Residency Program. He earned his MD degree at Indiana University and completed his pediatric residency and neonatal-perinatal fellowship at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. Dr. George has been in practice for more than 20 years and has extensive experience in caring for patients with cardiac and congenital anomalies.

Neonatal training: University of Iowa Children's Hospital

Clinical interests: Role of inhaled nitric oxide in premature infants, educational research, faculty development and determining trainee competency



## **Andrea Lampland, MD**

Associate System Medical Director

Associate Program Director, University of Minnesota Neonatal Perinatal Fellowship Program

Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota, Department of Neonatology

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Clinical and laboratory research of neonatal ventilation strategies, the care of extremely preterm infants, neonatal transport and resident/fellow education



## **Jennifer Berger, DO**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Iowa

Clinical interests: Management of extremely premature infants, necrotizing enterocolitis, global health



## **Daniela Villacis Calderon, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy, neonatal neurodevelopmental outcomes, global health strategies, antibiotic stewardship



## **Mark Bergeron, MD, MPH, MBA**

Medical Director, neonatal virtual care and outreach, and Digital Health Transformation for Children's Minnesota

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Public health policy and advocacy for newborn infants and hospital-based quality improvement initiatives to drive excellent outcomes for preterm infants



## **Eric Culp, DO**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: Loyola University

Clinical interests: Less-invasive ventilation strategies, antibiotic stewardship



## **Katherine Braski, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Utah

Clinical interests: Prevention and treatment of feeding difficulties, necrotizing enterocolitis in premature infants; research in Near-Infrared Spectroscopy



## **Ann Downey, MB, BAO, BCh, MS**

Director of Neonatal Quality

Neonatal training: University of Colorado, School of Med.; Northwestern Univ., Feinberg School of Medicine

Clinical interests: Health care quality and safety, neonatal resuscitation



**David Gonzalez, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Neonatal nutrition and growth, impact of hyperglycemia on brain development, care of underserved and non-English speaking families.



**Ryan Meinen, DO**

Medical Director of Ridgeview Medical Center NICU, St. Francis Special Care Nursery

Neonatal training: University of Wisconsin-Madison

Clinical interests: Point of care ultrasound (POCUS) use in the NICU, PDA management strategies, ventilation of the neonate and quality improvement



**Evangelia (Lia) Gravari, MD**

Director, Neonatal ECMO

Neonatal training: University of Louisville

Clinical interests: ECMO and neonatal transport



**Alexandra Muhar, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Clinical interests: Improving care and outcomes for opioid exposed infants & their families, education for trainees and outreach for community hospitals



**Donna Hamburg, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: Baylor College of Medicine



**Emilee Parsons, DO**

Neonatal Transport Medical Director

Neonatal training: University of Chicago

Clinical interests: Patient safety, simulation and global health



**Leah Jordan, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota Medical School

Clinical interests: Improving lactation care for patients and families through the use of quality improvement and trauma-informed care



**Megan Paulsen, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Colorado

Clinical interests: The intersection between the NICU environment and long-term outcomes, optimizing NICU family engagement, and leadership development



**Heidi Kamrath, DO**

Neonatal Outpatient Clinic Services Medical Director

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Management of extreme prematurity, intensive care follow-up, quality improvement



**Erin Plummer, MD**

Staff neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Growth, body composition, neurodevelopmental outcomes in neonates requiring surgery



**Christopher Lust, MD**

Medical Director, Special Care Nursery, Mercy Level III NICU, Regions Hospital Special Care Nursery and Lakeview Hospital Special Care Nursery

Neonatal training: Washington University in St. Louis

Clinical interest: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome



**Thomas Pokora, MD**

Staff Neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Neonatal abstinence syndrome, multiples and education

# MEET THE NEONATOLOGISTS, CONTINUED



**Jill Therien, MD**  
Medical Director, St. Paul  
Level III NICU

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota  
Clinical interests: Quality improvement and clinical research, particularly in extremely low birth weight infants during the first month of life



**Tara Zamora, MD**  
Medical Director, Minneapolis Level IV NICU  
Neonatal training: University of Minnesota

Clinical interests: Extremely preterm infant, blood transfusion practices and neonatal nutrition



**Jameel Winter, MD**  
Staff Neonatologist

Neonatal training: University of Virginia  
Clinical interests: Neonatal resuscitation, tele-neonatology and optimizing neonatal care in resource constrained settings around the world



**Elizabeth Petri Zorn, MD**  
Medical Director, Infant Care Center

Neonatal training: University of Minnesota  
Clinical interests: Neurodevelopmental outcomes, hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy, intensive care follow-up

## NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE SETTINGS

### MINNEAPOLIS

Children's Minnesota Hospital

2525 Chicago Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
612-813-6000

Level IV Neonatal Intensive  
Care Unit (NICU) • 44 beds

Level II Special Care  
Nursery (SCN) • 33 beds

Infant Care Center (ICC) • 41 beds

### ST. PAUL

Children's Minnesota Hospital

345 North Smith Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
651-220-6000

Level III NICU • 50 beds

Level II SCN • 12 beds

### COON RAPIDS

Mercy Hospital

4020 Coon Rapids Blvd NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 55433  
763-236-8400

Level III NICU • 16 beds

## CLINICAL RESOURCES

- Kid Experts On Demand
- Skill presentations and simulation training
- Neonatal case review presentations
- Patient care consultation
- Nursery assessments



**866-755-2121**

**CHILDREN'S MINNESOTA PHYSICIAN ACCESS**

24/7 referral, consult, admission and  
neonatal transport assistance.