

# Pediatric Kidney Transplantation

UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh performed its first kidney transplant in 1964. Since then, UPMC Children’s transplant team has performed kidney transplants on hundreds of children and teenagers, making us one of the most active pediatric kidney transplant centers in the country. Our objective is to restore health and wellness to children suffering from end stage kidney failure.

UPMC Children’s Pediatric Kidney Transplant Program was the first in the world to use tacrolimus as its primary immunosuppressive agent. The use of tacrolimus has enabled the program to achieve outstanding long-term patient and graft survival rates, and also allowed the majority of children to be withdrawn from chronic maintenance steroids. The current regimens, which employ preconditioning with alemtuzumab, allow complete avoidance of steroids after transplant.

## Key facts:

- **Named a Pediatric Transplant Center of Excellence by Optum. Selection is evaluated annually and based on the overall volume and unique complexity associated with pediatric transplants.**
- **UPMC Children’s is one of the largest and most active living donor kidney transplant programs in the nation.**
- **Our pre-emptive kidney transplantation rate over the previous 5 years is nearly double the average rate performed across all pediatric kidney transplant centers nationwide (45% vs. 25%) based on data from UNOS/OPTN.**
- **A member of the Improving Renal Outcomes Collaborative (IROC) Network.**
- **UPMC Children’s is able to perform kidney transplants in children as small as 6-7kg.**
- **Native nephrectomy is usually not necessary. The UPMC Children’s Pediatric Kidney Transplant Team does not routinely require native nephrectomies for patients with FSGS and nephrotic syndrome or patients with high grade reflux without recurrent UTIs.**
- **Our surgeons have expertise in performing kidney transplant in children with limited vascular access.**
- **UPMC Children’s specializes in multi-organ transplants, including combined liver-kidney, heart-kidney, and multivisceral (liver, pancreas, small bowel, and kidney) transplants. We have also performed a simultaneous living-donor liver and kidney transplant that was featured on the Discovery channel.**

- **We are one of the world leading centers in the management of transplant related infections, in particular in the management of EBV-related PTLD and BK virus.**
- **Our Kidney Transplant Team is available to evaluate patients for autotransplantation in conditions such as renal artery stenosis, mid aortic syndrome, nutcracker syndrome and loin pain hematuria syndrome.**
- **The Kidney Transplant Program is supported by world class kidney transplant pathology and histocompatibility services.**

## Outcomes

Our kidney transplant survival rates are among the best in the country, which is even more remarkable since we have successfully transplanted more complex patients than national pediatric averages.

### SURVIVAL RATES\*

#### Patient Survival Rates

1 Year 100% (national average 100%)

3 Year 100% (national average 99%)

#### Graft Survival Rates

1 Year 100% (national average 98%)

3 Year 95% (national average 93%)

*\*Source: Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (www.srtr.org), Jan. 2019 release*

## Volumes

Transplant Type	Yearly Average (2015-2019)	Program Inception through 12/31/2019
Living Donor	8	238
Deceased Donor	5	339
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>577</b>

# Meet the Team

## Our Leadership



**Armando Ganoza, MD**  
*Surgical Director  
Pediatric Kidney Transplant Program*

Dr. Ganoza is the surgical director of the Pediatric Kidney Transplant Program at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

He is an assistant professor of surgery at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He oversees all clinical and research activities for UPMC's Kidney Transplant Program. Dr. Ganoza's clinical interests include kidney, liver, pancreas, and intestinal transplantation in children and adults. He is also experienced in autologous islet-cell transplantation for chronic pancreatitis.

Dr. Ganoza received fellowship training in kidney, pancreas, and small bowel transplant surgery from the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute and UPMC Children's. He also trained in transplant and hepatobiliary surgery at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital.



**Michael Moritz, MD**  
*Medical Director, Pediatric Kidney  
Transplant Program  
Clinical Director, Pediatric Nephrology  
Medical Director, Pediatric Dialysis*

Dr. Moritz is the medical director of the Pediatric Kidney Transplant Program at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. He joined the faculty at UPMC Children's Hospital in 1999 where he is the medical director of Pediatric Dialysis and clinical director of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology. Dr. Moritz is also Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

Dr. Moritz completed his medical school and residency at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. He completed his fellowship in pediatric nephrology at Texas Children's Hospital and from there he moved on to the Albert Einstein College of Medicine where he was medical director of the pediatric dialysis unit.

Dr. Moritz serves on the editorial board of numerous journals. He is the Editor-in-Chief of *Frontiers in Pediatrics* and on the editorial board of *Pediatric Nephrology*. He is also the winner of the Publons Peer Review Award.

## Our Experts



**Melissa Anslow, MD**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Carlton Bates, MD**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Paul Fadakar, MD**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Cassandra Formeck, MD**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Dana Fuhrman, DO**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Jacqueline Ho, MD**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Emily Horosko, PA**  
*Pediatric Nephrology*



**Yosuke Miyashita**  
*Director, Pediatric Hypertension Clinic*



**Abhinav Humar, MD**  
*Clinical Director, Thomas E. Starzl  
Transplantation Institute  
Chief, Division of Transplant Surgery at UPMC*



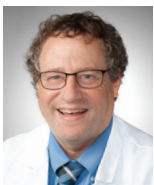
**Parmjeet Randhawa, MD**  
*Director, Renal Transplant Pathology  
Quality Assurance Program*



**Amit Tevar, MD**  
*Surgical Director, UPMC Kidney and  
Pancreas Transplant Program*



**Adriana Zeevi, PhD (D) ABHI**  
*Director, Histocompatibility Laboratory*



**Michael Green, MD**  
*Co-Director, Transplant Infectious Diseases*



**Marian Michaels, MD**  
*Co-Director, Transplant Infectious Diseases*



**Glenn Cannon, MD**  
*Chief, Division of Pediatric Urology*



**Rajeev Chaudhry, MD**  
*Pediatric Urology*



**Janelle Fox, MD**  
*Pediatric Urology*



**Francis Schneck, MD**  
*Pediatric Urology*



**Kate McIntyre, PsyD**  
*Behavioral Pediatrics*





## How To Refer

Physicians can refer patients for transplant evaluation through our outpatient transplant clinic.

Our clinicians are on-call 24-hours a day and are an excellent resource for all aspects of referrals and consultations.

### Referral Checklist

The checklist below outlines what is needed to refer a patient to UPMC Children's.

#### DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

- Patient name
- Patient date of birth
- Patient address
- Patient Social Security number
- Patient insurance information (copy of insurance card, if available)
- Parent/Guardian contact information (including home and cell phone numbers)

#### MEDICAL RECORDS REQUIRED

- Most recent outpatient clinic note
- Updated medication list
- All operative notes, including central line placement
- All vascular studies
- Radiologic studies, including CT scans, MRI, ultrasound, and Doppler studies
- Kidney biopsy reports (if reported)
- If patient is currently hospitalized, current hospitalization records

## Contact Us

Phone: 412-692-9969

Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 412-692-5325

24 hrs. ask for Pediatric Nephrologist on call

Fax: 412-692-7443



## About UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

Regionally, nationally, and globally, UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh is a leader in the treatment of childhood conditions and diseases, a pioneer in the development of new and improved therapies, and a top educator of the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists. With generous community support, UPMC Children's Hospital has fulfilled this mission since its founding in 1890. UPMC Children's is named consistently on several elite lists of pediatric hospitals, including ranking on the prestigious *U.S. News & World Report* annual Honor Roll of America's Best Children's Hospitals for 2020-2021.



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