



The Spina Bifida Clinic

The Spina Bifida Clinic at Children's Hospital is an interdisciplinary clinic.

This means that all of the specialists and support staff that your child will need to see are in one clinic.

This Clinic allows the staff or team members a better chance to discuss your child's needs together.

Welcome to the Spina Bifida Clinic

Many of the specialists and support staff are here one afternoon a month to care for your child. This decreases the need for you to bring your child back to see several people at different times and different places.

We want you to be an active member of this team.

Team members

- Business Clerk

The business clerk books the appointments and tests that your child will need.

- Pediatric Neurosurgeon

The neurosurgeon performs the surgery to close your child's myelomeningocele. The neurosurgeon will also treat your child if he or she has hydrocephalus.

- Pediatric Physiotherapist

The physiotherapist makes recommendations for bracing, exercises and mobility. The physiotherapist will work with your community therapists who see your child.

- Nurse Coordinator

The nurse coordinates your child's care among all members of the team.

The nurse will teach you about the special needs of children with Spina Bifida. He or she will also help your child establish a bladder and bowel program.

- Orthotist

The orthotist works with the physiotherapists and physiatrist to determine your child's needs for proper bracing equipment.

The orthotist then designs, makes and fits your child with the device or brace.

- Physiatrist

The physiatrist checks your child's muscle function and mobility needs. The physiatrist works with the orthopedist, the orthotist and the physiotherapist to figure out the best braces and mobility devices for your child.

- Developmental Pediatrics

The developmental pediatrician follows your child's growth and development. The pediatrician can also help you deal with behaviour and or school issues.

- Orthopedic Surgeon

The orthopedic surgeon specializes in bones and joints. The surgeon will evaluate your child's legs and back and then makes recommendations about the need for surgery on the muscles and bones.

The surgeon also works with the physiatrist, orthotist and physiotherapist in figuring out the best braces for your child.

- Pediatric Urologist

The urologist specializes in the kidneys, bladder and bowel problems of children born with Spina Bifida.

The goal for your child is to prevent kidney damage and urinary infection. When your child gets older, the urologist will help your child achieve satisfactory bladder and bowel control.

Spina Bifida Clinic visits

The Spina Bifida Clinic is held once a month on a Friday afternoon in the 3F Clinic.

The clinic is designed so that you and your child see all members in one setting. This allows for you and your child to receive total, quality care.

There may be times when your child will need to have more frequent follow-up visits with a particular specialist.

For more information

If you have any questions about the Spina Bifida Program at the Children's Hospital please call or fax:

Nurse Coordinator - 905-521-2100, extension 73238

Business Clerk - 905-521-2100, extension 75530
for appointments

Fax - 905-521-2654

We welcome your suggestions at any time.

Support groups for patients and families

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario

P.O. Box 103
Suite 1006
555 Richmond Street West
Toronto, ON M5B 3B1
1-416-214-1056
Toll Free 1-800-387-1575
Fax 1-416-214-1446

Website: www.sbhao.on.ca