

Pediatric Cardiology

Kentucky Children's Hospital's pediatric cardiology team excels in the management of complex congenital heart defects and acquired heart disease from the fetus to the adult.

With its focus on maternal fetal medicine (MFM), the team can identify many neonatal heart defects prior to birth. In fact, some fetal heart rhythm disturbances can be treated *in utero*.

Specialty coverage including:

- Arrhythmia detection (ECG, Holter, event recorders)
- Cardiac catheterization, including interventional procedures
- Cardiomyopathy evaluation and treatment
- Electrophysiology for treatment of rhythm disturbances
- Fetal-perinatal cardiology
- Non-invasive procedures, including echocardiography (transthoracic, transesophageal, fetal) and exercise testing
- Pacemaker management
- Preventive cardiology
- Pulmonary hypertension
- Syncope clinic

For more information or to make an appointment, contact UK Health Connection at **1-800-333-8874** or visit our Web site at ukhealthcare.uky.edu/kch.

Physicians who wish to refer a patient may call UK•MDs at **1-800-888-5533**.



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Kentucky Children's Heart Center



**UK HealthCare's
full-service
pediatric heart center**



What's special about Kentucky Children's Heart Center?

Simply put, we've created the region's leading comprehensive care center for children with heart disease.

The pediatric cardiology specialists, cardiothoracic surgeons and pediatric anesthesiologists of Kentucky Children's Hospital leverage leading-edge technologies such as fetal echocardiography to care for newborns and children with any heart defect, regardless of complexity.

This partnership generates the consistency of care so important in achieving the favorable long-term outcomes your patients deserve.

Kentucky Children's Hospital is the only hospital that offers this level of care, including the only Level III NICU in the eastern half of Kentucky.



The Mission of Kentucky Children's Hospital

To improve the lives and health of Kentucky's children and to provide a more optimistic future for their families.



Perinatal Cardiology

The Kentucky Children's Heart Center team can identify virtually all complex congenital heart disease in fetuses, some as young as 18-20 weeks. This critical information helps the Heart Center team work with Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Neonatology in planning the remainder of the mother's pregnancy and follow-up.

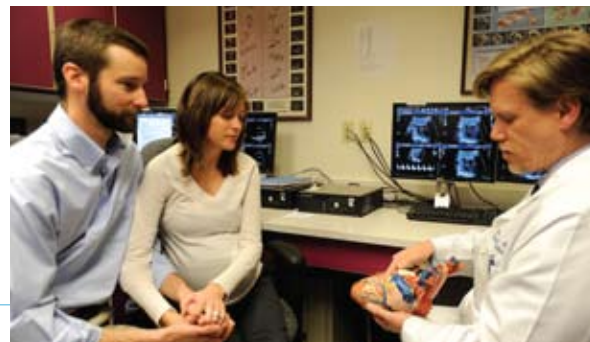
Bringing the neonatal team into the loop early in the pregnancy creates a comfort zone for the primary care provider as well as the parents. It also reduces the negative effects of unpleasant surprises following the emotional birth experience.

Digital Communication

Using links to several outside hospitals, Kentucky Children's Heart Center specialists can interpret echocardiograms sent from remote nurseries and help the on-site medical team manage their patients.

Patients and physicians receive the same level of service afforded to in-house cases at Kentucky Children's Heart Center:

- On-site and follow-up training for sonographers
- Same-day or immediate feedback



Louis Bezold, MD, consults with expectant parents about the results of their fetal echocardiogram.

Cardiothoracic Surgery

The pediatric heart surgeons at the Kentucky Children's Heart Center are highly specialized in the surgical management and repair of congenital heart defects. Our surgical team offers expertise in treating the entire spectrum of congenital heart disease, including the repair of the most common heart defects in children, as well as the repair of the most complex heart defects in neonates and newborn babies. The coming addition of a pediatric heart transplant program will offer even more expertise to care for every child with heart disease.

Consultation often begins during pregnancy and helps to prepare both the parents and the surgical team for issues that may arise soon after birth. Many open heart procedures are performed within days of birth to successfully repair these life-threatening heart defects as early as possible. Excellent postoperative care is achieved with a multidisciplinary team of our surgeons, cardiologists and intensivists.

The overall success of early surgical repair of heart defects has led to a growing number of adults who have survived childhood heart disease. The care of these patients continues throughout their lives and our program now offers surgical treatment and follow-up procedures to all of those adults with congenital heart disease.



Mark Plunkett, MD, left, and Deborah Kozik, DO, right, perform surgery on a pediatric patient while cardiologist Louis Bezold, MD, center, consults.

Pediatric Anesthesiology

Kentucky Children's Heart Center offers the only team of specially trained pediatric anesthesiologists in the eastern half of the Commonwealth. This is a major benefit, as these physicians interact with surgeons and pediatricians from all subspecialties in the management of patients and are extremely important to the success of a child's surgery.

In addition to surgical cases, the Kentucky Children's Heart Center team members are experts in pain and symptom control, along with management of sedation for children for nonsurgical procedures.

Pediatric Critical Care

A vital part of the team, the pediatric intensivists of Kentucky Children's Hospital provide expertise in the medical management of seriously ill pediatric cardiac patients, including during the critical recovery phase following cardiac surgery. In addition, this team provides support for the management of pain and sedation for nonsurgical procedures.

As staunch advocates for children, our physicians are committed to providing the best possible healing environment for these special patients while optimizing the chances for positive outcomes.