Why choose us?

• With a longstanding reputation for innovation and consistently high pediatric graft survival rates, the Kidney Transplant Program at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin is a preferred choice for children with chronic kidney failure.

• Our program is led by an outstanding team of physician specialists, consisting of six board-certified and nationally renowned pediatric transplant surgeons, and four experienced pediatric nephrologists, who work diligently and collaboratively with patients, families and referring physicians to ensure optimal treatment and care before, during and after kidney transplant.

• Children’s has nearly three decades of experience offering successful kidney transplants to children with a variety of conditions, including focal glomerulosclerosis, reflux nephropathy, oxalosis, cystinosis, glomerulonephritis, renal dysplasia, congenital nephrotic syndrome, polycystic kidney disease, and obstructive nephropathy.

• We have performed nearly 200 kidney transplants, including 12 in 2013-2014.

• We performed the first successful pediatric heart–kidney transplant in the Midwest.

• We care for the majority of children in the state of Wisconsin with transplant-related kidney disease.

• Our surgeons have a successful track record with unique transplants such as heart-kidney, liver-kidney and bone marrow-liver-kidney transplants.

• Children’s is one of only a few centers in the country to offer kidney and liver transplantation as a treatment option for autosomal recessive polycystic kidney disease.

• We transplant kidneys from living relatives, living nonrelatives and deceased donors, which decreases wait times.

• 100 percent of our patients return to school about a month after transplant.

• We collaborate with researchers at the BloodCenter of Wisconsin to perform ABO-incompatible transplants and work with potential recipients who are highly sensitized to human leukocyte antigen (HLA). For some patients, this can alleviate the long wait for a kidney.

• Our youngest kidney transplant recipient was 14 months old.

• Our team is actively engaged in research, including studies on quality of life and vulnerability in pediatric transplant recipients, and transition to home and chronic illness care after a solid organ transplant.

Our Transplant Center is a joint program of Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin with vital support by the BloodCenter of Wisconsin for tissue typing and research initiatives. Representing the most comprehensive pediatric and adult transplant care in Wisconsin, the program is recognized for nationally ranked outcomes, internationally known transplant specialists and end-stage disease management: a critical resource for Wisconsin and beyond.

Johnny C. Hong, MD, FACS, is a hepatobiliary and transplant surgeon and program director of Solid Organ Transplantation at Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin. Dr. Hong is a highly accomplished, innovative clinician and researcher. His clinical expertise encompasses the entire spectrum of multi-organ transplantation (liver, kidney, pancreas and intestine) and hepatobiliary surgery for adults and children. His laboratory research has focused on developing new treatments in organ resuscitation to mitigate the adverse effects of ischemia and reperfusion injury with the goal of reducing the number of patient deaths on the transplant waitlist by converting organs that would otherwise be discarded to transplantable status. Prior to joining Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin and Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, Dr. Hong was on the surgical faculty at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where he was director of the Liver and Pancreas Transplantation and Live Donor Liver Transplantation programs. He is board certified in general surgery by the American Board of Surgery, with fellowship training and certification in immunology and organ transplantation (University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston), and multiorgan transplantation and hepatobiliary surgery (UCLA).
Clinical outcomes

Our commitment to quality, advancements in surgical techniques and improvements in follow-up care allow us to achieve some of the best surgical outcomes in the nation.

Survival is the first and most important statistic, and survival at one month, one year and three years is 100 percent for pediatric kidney transplant patients at Children’s. Our graft survival rates — which indicate the proportion of transplanted kidneys that continue to function well enough that the patient does not need dialysis — are consistently among the best in the nation. Children’s also has significantly shorter wait times for kidney transplants compared with the national average.

Family-centered care

Our transplant team is committed to providing the highest-quality transplant services in a family-centered environment. Our multidisciplinary team includes transplant coordinators, pediatric nephrologists, transplant surgeons, dialysis nurses, renal clinic nurses, social workers, pharmacists, dietitians, financial counselors and child life specialists. We meet to discuss patients during pretransplant, transplant and post-transplant phases to ensure the best clinical outcomes and care coordination.

We offer many family support services, including an Access Center to assist with coordinating hospital visits, child life services, which provides support and coping techniques for the patient and their siblings and a Family Resource Center that provides valuable tips and advice to help families flourish.

Providers

Abdominal Transplant Surgeons

Phone: (414) 955-6920

Johnny C. Hong, MD, FACS - Director of Solid Organ Transplant and Pediatric Liver Transplant
Michael A. Zimmerman, MD, FACS - Director of Pediatric Kidney Transplant
David C. Cronin, MD, PhD, FACS
Christopher P. Johnson, MD, FACS
Joohyun Kim, MD
Allan M. Roza, MD, FACS

Transplant Nephrologists

Phone: (414) 266-2844

Cynthia G. Pan, MD - Medical Director of Nephrology/Renal/Dialysis
Craig C. Porter, MD
Rajasree Sreedharan, MD
Scott K. Van Why, MD

Kidney Transplant Coordinators

Phone: (844) 497-2346
Shelley Chapman, RN, BSN, CCTC
Kate Thomas, RN, BSN

Physician consultation and referral

Refer a patient • Discuss a case • Arrange a transport
chw.org/refer (414) 266-2460 • toll-free (800) 266-0366