

Cleft & Craniofacial Anomalies Program

Riley Children's Health

Scheduling Number: 317.944.2489

Fax Number: 317.968.1372

The Cleft & Craniofacial Anomalies Program at Riley Children's Health is the state's largest cleft and craniofacial care team in Indiana. Established in 1933, the program was one of the first in the U.S. The team continues to define the standard of care for facial reconstruction by publishing clinic outcomes, delivering lectures regionally, nationally and internationally, and actively participating in national and international surgical societies. The program is one of a select few in Indiana accredited by the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association.

The program streamlines visits to the hospital so that multiple specialists can see patients, if necessary, and develop a unified care plan. This approach limits visits to the hospital while providing children with a personalized plan to improve health and quality of life. A care coordinator is assigned to every case to ensure continuity of care and a point of contact for the family.

A team approach is used to diagnose, treat and manage the full range of complex cleft and craniofacial concerns including:

- Cleft lip & palate
- Congenital ear anomalies
- Facial trauma
- Head shape abnormalities, including craniosynostosis
- Hemangiomas
- Jaw deformities
- Oculo-auricular-vertebral syndrome
- Pierre Robin sequence
- Vascular anomalies
- Vascular malformations
- Velopharyngeal dysfunction

Patients may be referred to our program directly through their primary care provider, speech pathologist or orthodontist/dental provider.

Additionally, we support families who may have a suspected anomaly identified during pregnancy to help plan and educate them about future care plans for their child.

As part of a visit with the Cleft & Craniofacial Anomalies Program, patients see necessary specialists all in one visit, held once a week, providing a level of convenience for them and their families. The program supports patients over time as children grow and physical and emotional needs change, into adolescence and young adulthood.

CORE TEAM:



Sunil Tholpady, MD
Craniofacial Plastic Surgery



Emma Cordes, MD
Craniofacial Plastic Surgery



Katelyn Makar, MD
Craniofacial Plastic Surgery



Ellen Randall, PA
Craniofacial Plastic Surgery



Laurie Ackerman, MD
Neurosurgery



Rabia Qaiser, MD
Neurosurgery

The pediatric craniofacial surgeons, pediatric neurosurgeons, and dedicated pediatric anesthesiologists with the Cleft & Craniofacial Anomalies Program are highly skilled in performing these delicate surgeries. As one of a few Level 1 Surgery Centers, Riley Children's is uniquely qualified to care for these complex conditions.



Riley Children's Health
Indiana University Health

rileychildrens.org

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Key care teams include:

Cleft center

- Audiology
- Craniofacial plastic surgery
- Dentistry
- Developmental medicine
- Dietetics/Nutrition
- Feeding specialists/SLP
- Medical photography
- Nursing
- Oral surgery
- Orthodontics
- Otolaryngology
- Social work
- Speech pathology
- Team coordination

Craniosynostosis center

- Craniofacial plastic surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Nursing

Frequently, additional Riley Children's specialists are called upon to participate in the unique care plan of each patient, including genetics, ophthalmology, pulmonary, psychology and radiology.

It's never too early to refer a patient for a suspected cleft or craniofacial concern. The coordination and collaboration of providers ensures families get the support they need leading up to surgical intervention, inclusive of feeding, speech and other developmental milestone support. Riley Children's also has access to a variety of diagnostics to support the diagnosis and care plan including video fluoroscopic feeding studies, sleep studies and nasal endoscopy.

Location:

Riley Outpatient Center, Surgery MSA
575 Riley Hospital Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202