To Make a Referral to the Brachial Plexus Program
Services are provided on the main campus:
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Outpatient Care Center, First Floor
555 South 18th Street
Columbus, Ohio 43025

Section of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
• Local Phone: (614) 722-6299 • Toll Free: (877) 722-6220 • Fax: (614) 722-4000

You may also submit referrals online at: www.NationwideChildrens.org/Plastic-Surgery

Urgent Physician Consults
For urgent phone consultations, contact our Physician Direct Connect Line 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
• Local Phone: (614) 355-0221 • Toll Free: (877) 355-0221 • Fax: (614) 722-2140

Hand, Microsurgery, and Brachial Plexus Program
Outpatient Care Center, First Floor
555 S. 18th Street
Columbus, Ohio 43205
NationwideChildrens.org/Plastic-Surgery

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.℠

CH1673.01.13.13000

Hand, Microsurgery, and Brachial Plexus Program

Brachial Plexus Program

NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.℠

Our experts deliver collaborative, individualized care.

Many parents are unaware of something called the brachial plexus and how important it is to their baby's life. The brachial plexus is a network of nerves that begins at the spinal cord and controls the arm, shoulder and hand function. Injury to these nerves during birth or later trauma can leave the arm without feeling or movement. These injuries can range from mild to severe, and sometimes surgery is necessary to improve an arm's function. At Nationwide Children's Hospital, our Hand, Microsurgery, and Brachial Plexus Program is staffed by a team of experts ready to evaluate, educate and provide appropriate interventions.

Nationwide Children's is home to one of the few programs in the country offering a truly collaborative, multidisciplinary, evidence-based approach to obstetric brachial plexus injuries. Our team of experts from physical and cccupational therapy, nursing, social work, plastic surgery, orthopedic surgery, physical medicine and rehabilitation, neurology, radiology and pathology provide comprehensive care that is individualized to each patient and family. Brachial plexus injuries can have a lifelong impact on children and their families. We strive for each of our patients to achieve their fullest potential, while realizing they may not achieve completely normal function. We support children and their families through evaluation, therapy, and surgical and pschological interventions for all phases of growth from infant to teenager.

Because there are only a few programs across the country that treat brachial plexus injuries, many of the families we serve travel to Nationwide Children's for care, and when necessary, leave with a follow-up care plan that can be coordinated with their local specialists.

What to expect at your visit:

Children with brachial plexus injuries may face unique challenges. In order to provide patients and families with a comprehensive and individualized evaluation and treatment plan in the most efficient manner possible, clinics are held on the third Friday of each month. All referred patients are pre-screened by one of our staff to coordinate the appropriate specialist care and obtain any necessary records that we may need to review during the visit (for example, X-rays, birth records, or previous treatments).

Based on the pre-screening information, we may recommend and organize a visit or consultation with one of our specialized brachial plexus therapists to start some simple stretching and movement exercises prior to your first team visit. During the clinic visit, the child and family will be seen by the brachial plexus team and undergo a thorough review of their history and a detailed physical examination. As part of the examination, older children may have pictures or video taken for movement analysis.

Serial examinations are an important part of effectively evaluating brachial plexus injuries, and typically, initial team evaluations are done at 2-3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months and then annually, if needed. Treatments can range from stretching and splinting to Botox injections and surgical intervention, depending on the severity of the injury.

A detailed, coordinated assessment and plan of care is reviewed during a team meeting at the end of each clinic and a copy of this assessment and plan is sent to the primary care physician for continuity of care.

Our care includes the following services:

Microsurgery
- Facial reanimation
- Reconstruction (after trauma or tumor resection)

Hand and Upper Extremities
- Congenital differences
- Traumatic and inflammatory conditions

Brachial Plexus
- At birth
- Caused by trauma

Welcome Center Services and Ronald McDonald House

Welcome Center Services at Nationwide Children's supports the needs of patients and families arriving from out-of-town, including help with housing, finances and other resources.

We understand that in order to prepare for a hospital visit, a good night's rest the night before, for both the patient and family, is essential. Programs include our unique Ronald McDonald House advanced placement service and Marriott's *Sleep Well, Get Well* initiative.

Located across the street from Nationwide Children's, Ronald McDonald House provides a "home away from home" for families with seriously ill children. Following a referral, families from outside Franklin County will be contacted when a room is available for short- and long-term stays.

Marriott's *Sleep Well, Get Well* program offers a hotel stay the night before any inpatient or outpatient procedure to families traveling from outside of central Ohio.

In addition to these programs, Columbus has a variety of housing and transportation options. Our local partners extend many special discounts to our patients and families.

Financial Information and Resources
We have extensive experience in helping families work through questions related to insurance coverage for health care services available through commercial and public carriers, as well as other sources of national and international funding.

For more information, contact:
Welcome Center Services
Nationwide Children's Hospital
700 Children's Drive, Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: (800) 792-8401 Ext. 59866
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
NationwideChildrens.org/Welcome-Center-Services

Ronald McDonald House
711 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: (614) 227-3700
NationwideChildrens.org/Ronald-McDonald-House

Maya C. Spaeth, MD, CCFP, is co-director of the Hand, Microsurgery and Brachial Plexus Program at Nationwide Children's. She is also a member of the Section of Plastic Surgery at Nationwide Children's and a clinical assistant professor of plastic surgery at Ohio State University College of Medicine. Dr. Spaeth has been published in leading professional publications and is actively involved in research on congenital hand, brachial plexus, hemangioma and vascular malformations, and resident education. She is board certified by the American Board of Plastic Surgery in both plastic and reconstructive surgery and hand surgery.

James E. Popp, MD, is co-director of the Hand, Microsurgery and Brachial Plexus Program at Nationwide Children's. He is also a faculty member of the Department of Orthopedics at Nationwide Children's and a clinical assistant professor at Ohio State University College of Medicine. Dr. Popp specializes in surgery of the hand and upper extremity in adult and pediatric patients. He has been published in various medical journals and is actively involved in research and resident education. He is a member of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons, American Society for Surgery of the Hand, Mid-American Orthopaedic Association, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, American Medical Association and Ohio State Medical Association.