

# Nationwide Children's Hospital

## Division of Gastroenterology

### Bowel Management Clinic (BMC)



At Nationwide Children's Hospital, we recognize that having a child or teenager with bowel problems is a very stressful experience. Treating this problem requires a lot of time, energy and patience. Over the years, we have seen that the families who are likely to manage bowel problems most effectively are those who have frequent follow-up medical care and a structured behavioral plan.

To meet these needs, we have developed the **Bowel Management Clinic (BMC)**. The BMC involves frequent follow-up with a nurse practitioner to manage the medical aspects of your child's problem and with a behavioral specialist to ensure that the medical treatment is as effective as possible.

**What patients are followed in this clinic?** This clinic has been specially designed to work with children ages 3 through 18 who have had ongoing bowel problems. Diagnoses often include:

- Toileting avoidance/refusal
- Stool withholding
- Encopresis (soiling)
- Constipation

**Where are the clinics held?** The clinics are held in the Center for Digestive Diseases, on the main floor of the "G" building of the main hospital in Columbus and in the Nationwide Children's Northwest Medical Office Building, 5665 Venture Drive in Dublin. For directions, visit [www.NationwideChildrens.org/maps](http://www.NationwideChildrens.org/maps)

**How long are the appointments?** Your first visit may take approximately one hour so that we can fully assess and understand your concerns. After this, follow-up appointments may be every few weeks and visits will be 30 to 45 minutes.

**Scheduling.** If you are receiving this flyer, your child has been evaluated by a gastroenterologist or pediatric nurse practitioner. You have been referred to the BMC because the GI clinician feels that your child may benefit from this clinic.

Once your initial visit is scheduled, you will receive a packet with questions about your child's medical problem and his or her behavior. This packet must be completed prior to your first visit and brought to your first visit. The packet contains materials that must be reviewed when we see your child for the first time.

**Cancellations/Rescheduling.** If you need to cancel or reschedule a visit to the clinic, please contact Centralized Scheduling at (614) 722-6200. Be sure to indicate that you are scheduling for the **GI Bowel Management Clinic**.