

Neonatology



Small Baby Program



**NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S**

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.SM

Our Small Baby Program lets premature babies thrive.

Extreme prematurity is one of the leading causes of infant mortality. But the Small Baby Program at Nationwide Children's Hospital is changing that. Just a few years ago, the survival rate for babies born at 23 weeks was 10 percent. Today, the survival rate at Nationwide Children's is 78 percent, due to the standardized care that our guidelines provide.

At the heart of the Small Baby Program is a standardized protocol for care, developed by the neonatology team at Nationwide Children's and tested at the bedside, providing a uniform, interdisciplinary approach to the family-centered care of extremely premature babies. The guidelines outline care regarding development, nutrition, cardiovascular functioning, infection and other potential health concerns throughout these infants' hospitalization. As a result, premature babies at Nationwide Children's are doing more than surviving. They're catching up to their peers and thriving with outstanding developmental outcomes.

We're dedicated to delivering family-centered care.

Every aspect of the Small Baby Program at Nationwide Children's is dedicated to the care of babies born at less than 27 weeks with:

- Dedicated, multidisciplinary care from pediatric experts who specialize in the care of our smallest, most fragile patients

- Dedicated, evidenced-based protocols that give babies the chance to outgrow their illnesses
- A dedicated Small Baby Pod in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) staffed by nurses devoted to the care of premature babies

Our lifesaving research tests the guidelines' effectiveness.

Our NICU began developing the Small Baby Guidelines (SBG) to create consensus, so that all babies would receive equal care and optimal outcomes.

After seven months of development, the Small Baby Program committee implemented the first set of SBGs. The guidelines were used in the care of all infants born at less than 27 weeks gestation and who were less than 7 days old. To determine the effectiveness of the guidelines, our neonatology team gathered data on all 41 infants cared for during the guidelines' first year and compared these to data on 40 same-age infants who were admitted during the year leading up to the SBG implementation.

Results showed that babies treated according to the SBGs had a substantially shorter hospital stay than those cared for the year prior to the implementation, and fewer SBG babies experienced intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH) and bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD).



We treat the whole family. At the hospital and at home.

Our Small Baby Program and its neonatology experts have attracted interest from neonatal centers from across the country. Patients receive specialized treatment and families return home with specific treatment plans for their babies. Additionally, there is a commitment to ongoing consultation between Nationwide Children’s and the patient’s primary care physician.

Welcome Center Services and Ronald McDonald House

Welcome Center Services supports the unique needs of patients and families arriving from out of town, including housing, transportation, financial information and resources.

Services include our unique Ronald McDonald House Sleep Well, Get Well program, which offers a free hotel stay (the night before any inpatient or outpatient procedure) to families traveling from outside of the central Ohio area. 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.

Housing and Transportation

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

Financial Information and Resources

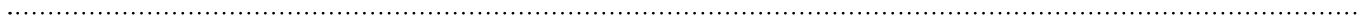
We have extensive experience in supporting families and working through questions related to coverage for health care services available through commercial and public insurance, as well as other sources of national and international funding.

Welcome Center Services and Office Hours

Nationwide Children’s Hospital
700 Children’s Drive
Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: (800) 792-8401 Ext. 59866
Monday–Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a “home-away-from-home” for families with seriously ill children. Located across the street from Nationwide Children’s Hospital, families from outside Franklin County are referred to Ronald McDonald House for short- and long-term stays. Following a referral, families are contacted when a room is available.

For complete information, please visit NationwideChildrens.org/Ronald-McDonald-House or contact the Ronald McDonald House directly:
711 E. Livingston Ave.
Columbus, OH 43205
Phone: (614) 227-3700
Fax: (614) 227-3765



Make a referral.

Call the Physician Direct Connect Line toll free at (877) 355-0221, for physician consults and to coordinate a patient transport, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



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700 Children's Drive
Columbus, OH 43205-2696
NationwideChildrens.org/Neonatology

