



The Host Defense Program

Referrals and Consultations

Online: [NationwideChildrens.org/](https://www.NationwideChildrens.org/)

Phone: (614) 722-6200 or (877) 722-6220 | Fax: (614) 722-4000

Physician Direct Connect Line for 24-hour urgent physician consultations: (614) 355-0221 or (877) 355-0221.



**NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S**

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.SM

The Host Defense Program, jointly created by the Divisions of Hematology, Oncology, & Blood and Marrow Transplant and Infectious Diseases at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, is one of the country’s first pediatric-focused programs specifically designed to address the comprehensive infection prevention and management needs of immunocompromised children. Our collaborative approach ensures that the each child’s unique needs are addressed by specialized physicians, who are supported by an interdisciplinary team of experts in immunocompromised conditions.

Clinical Expertise

The Host Defense Program is comprised of dedicated faculty with expertise in the prevention, diagnosis, and management of infectious diseases in immunocompromised children. Host Defense Team Members are integrated into subspecialty teams, providing clinical expertise and a continuum of infection-related care in both hospital and ambulatory settings. The Program develops evidence-based clinical practice standards to optimize patient outcomes related to infection. Host Defense Team Members also participate in multi-institutional clinical therapeutic trials that enable our patients to have access to cutting-edge therapies like new antimicrobial agents, directed against drug-resistant bacteria, invasive fungi, and viruses.



Investigational Discovery

The Host Defense Program is a translational research collaborative among the Divisions of Hematology/ Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplantation and Infectious Diseases at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, The Research Institute at Nationwide Children’s Hospital, and The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center. Researchers work to improve the understanding of how germs and the immune system interact in order to develop novel therapies directed at eliminating these pathogens. Through collaborative research, Host Defense Team Members accelerate scientific knowledge and deliver new, innovative therapies to reduce infection-related complications and death in immunocompromised children.

Next Generation Education

The Host Defense Program developed the first pediatric fellowship program in the United States to offer specialized training in infection prevention and management in immunocompromised children in 2015. The Host Defense Program Fellowship provides formal training to physicians who have already completed an American Board of Pediatrics-certified subspecialty pediatric infectious disease fellowship and have an interest in caring for immunocompromised children. Through the fellowship, trainees are provided a diverse clinical and research experience at both Nationwide Children’s Hospital and The Ohio State University. As a rapidly growing sub-specialty within the field of infectious diseases, the Host Defense Program is committed to train the next generation of physicians with expertise in the unique needs of immunocompromised children.

The Host Defense Fellowship Program Structure

Clinical/Research Experience	Duration
ID Inpatient Consultations	12 weeks
ID Outpatient Consultations & Pre-Transplant Evaluations	½ day clinic, weekly
Transplant Infectious Disease (TID) Specific	
Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation and Cellular Therapy	4 weeks
Solid Organ Transplantation: Heart/Lung/Kidney	4 weeks
Adult Transplant Infectious Diseases at OSU	8 weeks
Hematology: Sickle Cell and Bone Marrow Failure	4 weeks
Primary Immunodeficiency & Lymphoproliferative Clinics	4 weeks
Laboratory, Pathology, & Transplant Pharmacology	4 weeks
Research	12 weeks

For more information, please contact HDP Fellowship Program Director at Monica.Ardura@nationwidechildrens.org or the Education Coordinator at Erica.Martz@nationwidechildrens.org.