

**Clinical Care of Children at the University of Virginia Health System
The University of Virginia Children's Hospital
2007-2008**

The University of Virginia Children's Hospital cares for children from birth to young adulthood. Care often now begins before birth with collaborative relationships with high risk obstetrical faculty. Neonatology, Pediatric Cardiology and Pediatric Surgery are very active in this area. Fetal cardiac ultrasonography volumes are growing by 20-30% over last year's volumes. Dr. Anitha Jayakumar leads that effort for the Division. Transition to adult providers remains an area of emphasis for most Divisions. The Division of Developmental Pediatrics received philanthropic support for a nurse practitioner lead effort to transition the care of young adults with cerebral palsy to adult medical providers. These initiatives are a good example of the complexity and comprehensiveness of the care provided by our more than 130 faculty members.

Family Centered Care has been practiced at the University of Virginia for many years. Developmental Pediatrics and the Kluge Children's Rehabilitation programs have been a model of this starting with Dr. Hostler's leadership and guidance. In 2008, a twelve person team from UVA attended an intensive training seminar for Patient and Family Centered Care. Eight of the attendees were from the Children's Hospital including one parent and one teacher from our Hospital Education Program. Initiatives within the Children's Hospital include family inclusion on rounds in the NICU and the General Pediatric Ward as well as parent representation on the Children's Hospital Regional Quality Team.

The UVACH has increased active participation in the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI). Representatives from the PICU, under the direction of Dr. Laura Lee are participating in the blood stream infection work group with the goal of reducing hospital acquired infections in critically ill children. The Fitness Clinic, under the direction of Drs. Vicky Norwood, and Mark DeBoer and Nurse Practitioner Susan Cluett was selected to participate in a leadership role in a national NACHRI group defining the best practice and successes of medical center based obesity programs.

The clinical programs continue to grow across the spectrum of care. The inpatient areas are usually over 85% occupied and are at a high level of acuity. The intensive care units are staffed for 45 NICU beds and 14 PICU beds and are usually greater than 90% occupied. Growth in surgical areas remains strong. The out-patient programs continue to grow with specialty care posting a 5% growth. General pediatric increase in visits occurs mostly at the Northridge and Orange practices. Most specialty clinics are adding sessions to accommodate the growth. Particularly strong increase in out-patient visits has been seen in endocrinology, cardiology and gastroenterology. Super-specialized clinics for heart failure/transplantation and electrophysiology and rhythm management are growing to meet demand. The fastest growing areas of out-patient practice are infusions of medications that used to require hospitalization. As the clinic is enlarged, a pediatric infusion center will be a new program that will improve efficiency of clinic operations and support this important "clinic" function.

The pediatric clinics at Primary Care are currently in the middle of a design project which is bringing nature to the rooms along with a lot of color and cool toys. The design was made by the firm of Stanley Beaman and Sears of Atlanta, Georgia. They have previously made upgrades in the pediatric operating rooms and recovery area. The design brings color and nature in 2 flavors to the clinic; hills and valley and rivers and streams. Children of all ages and the faculty and staff are pleased to be in such a bright

and cheerful clinic. Over the past year, much work has been done to lay a foundation for the size and clinical content of the Bill and Barry Battle Building. This large building will consolidate care of children with complex medical conditions and will be the ambulatory location for the UVACH. The building will be designed with the child and family at the center of the program and design process. We are currently recruiting children and parents to serve on the focus groups. Clinical research space and practice will be an integral part of the Battle Building.

The University of Virginia Children's Hospital continues to be a vital and busy place to work, teach, learn, and perform research. Our goal remains to excel at each one of our missions and provide a range of clinical services as needed by the patients and families.

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