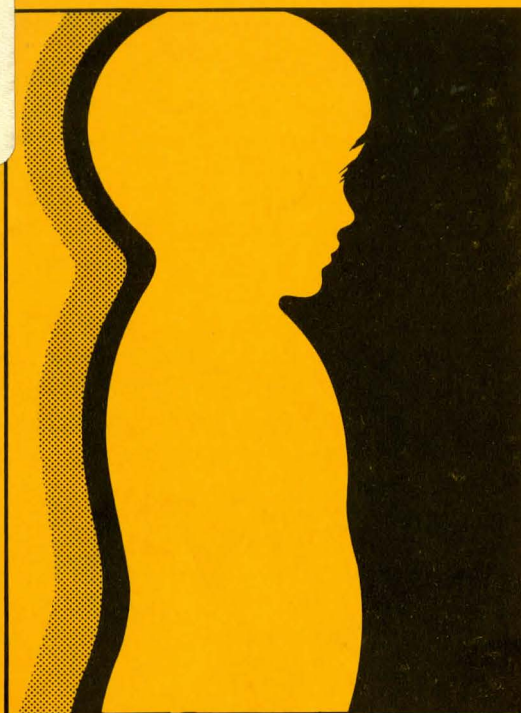


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University Hospital School Myelodysplastic Clinic

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Division of Developmental Disabilities
Department of Pediatrics
The University of Iowa
Hospitals and Clinics
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Who We Are

The Myelodysplastic Clinic is an outpatient service in the Department of Pediatrics' Division of Developmental Disabilities. It is located in the University Hospital School which is part of The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

Whom We Serve

The primary role of the Myelodysplastic Clinic is to offer coordinated, interdisciplinary medical and rehabilitative care to children and adults, birth to age 35, who have spinal cord birth defects, such as spina bifida, and spinal cord injuries.

Where We Are

The Myelodysplastic Clinic is located in the Outpatient Clinic area on the middle floor of the University Hospital School, adjacent to the General Hospital and Parking Ramp No. 1 (see map).

Who Makes Referrals

Any person may refer a child or young adult to the Myelodysplastic Clinic, including physicians, parents, nurses, school staff, social services personnel, and other professionals. To make a referral, either call or write the Myelodysplastic Clinic (319-353-7054) or the University Hospital School Outpatient Clinic (319-353-4055). A request is made to have school program records and/or medical information forwarded to the clinic prior to the patient's visit to the clinic.

Cost of Clinic Visits

The cost of the clinic visit is determined at The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics by the patient's pay classification and is reviewed by the social worker with the patient's family during the first visit. Any additional charges for laboratory work, x-rays, or special equipment are discussed with the patient's family.

The Clinic Day

The clinic meets each Monday from 7:45 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Patients and their families should plan to spend an entire day at the clinic.

Patients are evaluated by a team of health professionals which includes: a urologist, orthopedist, pediatrician, pediatric nurse practitioner, pedodontist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech pathologist, psychologist, social worker, audiologist, and nutritionist. Individual needs determine which professionals see each patient. X-ray procedures and other clinical evaluations occur throughout the day in the University Hospital complex and the Hospital School. Observations and recommendations are shared by team members with the family after each evaluation. The patient's family remains with the patient throughout the evaluations and assists team members by providing information about the patient's daily activities and routines at home, special problems, medical information, and other important details. The health professionals participate in an interdisciplinary meeting at the end of each clinic to share ideas and treatment approaches for each patient.

The Team Members

Urologist: Provides evaluation and treatment of patient's kidney and bladder function.

Orthopedist: Provides evaluation and treatment of patient's bone, joint, and muscle problems.

Pediatrician/Pediatric Nurse Practitioner: Obtains patient's health history, performs examinations, and makes medical referrals to other clinics as necessary. The nurse also provides guidance regarding daily health management.

Pedodontist: Obtains a dental history and performs an oral examination. Appropriate recommendations are offered including preventive and restorative treatments.

Social Worker: Assists with the problems particular to the family of a handicapped individual and informs families of available local services.

Psychologist: Evaluates psychological functioning, counsels patients and their families, and makes appropriate educational and management recommendations.

Occupational Therapist: Evaluates arm-hand skills, motor development levels, feeding, dressing, bathing, and writing.

Physical Therapist: Evaluates level of physical and motor development, determines the most appropriate mode of locomotion, and recommends exercises.

Speech Pathologist: Evaluates level of language comprehension and ability to communicate with others.

Audiologist: Determines level of hearing, makes recommendations for hearing aids if needed, and evaluates the child's use of the aid.

Nutritionist: Assesses nutritional needs, develops individualized dietary plans, and provides dietary counseling.

Report of the Evaluation

A report of the evaluation is sent to the family, local physician, and other involved agencies if designated by the family.

Other Services

Genetic Counseling: Parents who are concerned about recurrence risks of the birth defect spina bifida may be referred for genetic counseling and services.

Referral: Referrals are made to appropriate specialty clinics in The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics if needed, or local agencies for treatment or therapy.

Inpatient Admission: Short-term admission to the University Hospital School may be recommended for further evaluation or therapy for selected patients.

Consultation: The professional staff in the Myelodysplastic Clinic, if requested, may consult with local agencies, especially in regard to treatment techniques or recommendations for any patient.

Coordination: The Myelodysplastic Clinic coordinator serves as a liaison between patient families, agencies, and health professionals. The coordinator not only schedules patient appointments for the Myelodysplastic Clinic but also coordinates other University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics appointments if needed.

Research and Education

The Myelodysplastic Clinic, like other University departments, has a threefold program of service, education, and research. Educational opportunities are provided for University students in various disciplines to learn more about this group of patients and their problems. The clinic engages in continuing research.

Whom to Call for More Information

Contact the following people with any questions or concerns you have:

Michael Robertson
Coordinator
319-353-7054 or 319-353-4055

Mark Wolraich, M.D.
Medical Director
319-353-6204

