Neurosurgery

What Is Neurosurgery?

Neurosurgery is the surgical treatment of diseases and disorders of the brain and spinal cord. Gillette Children’s Specialty Healthcare is a regional leader in pediatric neurology and neurosurgery.

Conditions Neurosurgery Treats

Neurosurgery treats complex neurological conditions affecting the spinal cord, neck, nerves, and/or brain that began in childhood. At Gillette, we also provide neurosurgical care to treat the secondary effects of such complex conditions.

Some of the conditions we treat most often include:

- Cerebral palsy.
- Deformational plagiocephaly.
- Epilepsy and seizures.
- Brain injury and related neurotrauma.
- Hydrocephalus.
- Craniosynostosis.
- Spina bifida.
- Arachnoid cysts.
- Arteriovenous malformations and other cerebral vascular conditions.
- Birth brachial plexus injury.
- Chiari malformation.
- Complex movement disorders.
- Dandy-Walker syndrome.
- Macrocephaly.
- Moyamoya syndrome.
- Spasticity.
- Spinal cord abnormalities, including tethered spinal cord.
- Spinal cord injury and related neurotrauma.

Tests and Treatments
Your child or family member will benefit from the latest technology and techniques in neurosurgery at Gillette. Some of our neurosurgery tests and treatments include:

- Cranial vault remodeling for craniosynostosis.
- Deep brain stimulation for complex movement disorders.
- Endoscopic third ventriculostomy for hydrocephalus.
- Intraoperative monitoring.
- Intrathecal baclofen pump implantation to manage spasticity.
- Neurodiagnostics, including electroencephalography (EEG), video EEG, electromyography and sleep study (polysomnography).
- Selective dorsal rhizotomy surgery for spasticity.
- Shunt surgery for hydrocephalus.
- Tethered spinal cord release.
- Vagus nerve stimulation for epilepsy and seizures.

Because many of the conditions we treat are diagnosed during pregnancy, our neurosurgeons also offer prenatal consultations and diagnosis. We meet with you and teach about conditions such as hydrocephalus, spina bifida, neural tube defects and cysts. We also provide education on treatment options and, if appropriate, help plan a course of treatment.

**Integrated Care**

If your child needs treatment for a complex neurological condition, they will benefit from the expertise of internationally recognized pediatric neurosurgeons at Gillette. Along with our pediatric nurse practitioners, these specialists deliver full-service care in a family-centered environment.

Your child's health, comfort and confidence are our top priorities. At Gillette, you’ll work closely with top pediatric neurosurgeons that specialize in highly complex conditions and injuries. Together, these teams of experts will help your child feel their best.
Patrick Graupman, MD
Pediatric Neurosurgeon

Susanna Hunter, APRN, CNP
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
Debbie Song, MD
Pediatric Neurosurgeon

Shawn Wedlund, APRN, CNP
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Locations

Our surgery facility is located on the St. Paul Campus. Our neurosurgeons also conduct outpatient visits at the following locations.

St. Paul Campus
Burnsville Clinic

Duluth Clinic

Gillette Mankato Clinic
Minnetonka Clinic

Make An Appointment 651-290-8707

This information is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice of your health care providers. If you have any questions, talk with your doctor or others on your health care team.

If you are a Gillette patient with urgent questions or concerns, please contact Telehealth Nursing at 651-229-3890.

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