

Cardiology

What Is Cardiology?

Cardiology is the branch of medicine that treats diseases and disorders of the heart.

A pediatric cardiologist is a heart specialist who has special training diagnosing and treating children's heart-related (cardiac) problems.

Conditions Cardiology Treats

Complex conditions such as spinal muscular atrophy, muscular dystrophy and various genetic conditions can lead to secondary cardiac issues.

The symptoms of pediatric heart problems can include:

- Cardiac insufficiency.
- Congestive heart failure.
- Enlarged atria and ventricles.
- Irregular heartbeat.

Cardiology Tests and Treatments

After performing cardiology tests, cardiologists might diagnose your child with a cardiology condition. If your child does have a secondary cardiology condition, our cardiologists will recommend advanced treatments to improve your child's heart function or slow down heart deterioration.

For example, a doctor might prescribe medicines, provide nutrition counseling, or recommend an exercise program. These treatments can prevent or slow down heart complications related to various complex conditions, such as cerebral palsy.

Integrated Care

If your child has a disability or complex condition, they might also experience secondary cardiac issues related to their primary conditions. At Gillette, we organize our integrated care services around these conditions, to make sure kids can always get the care they need, when they need it most.

Our cardiologists are experts at working with children who have physical disabilities—and who experience challenges with behavior, communication, and thinking and learning. We also understand how complex conditions such as [cerebral palsy](#) and [muscular dystrophy](#) can affect the heart.

Our facilities and technology are designed specifically to make care as comfortable and convenient as possible for

your family. Working together with providers in other areas of treatment, our cardiologists provide care that can minimize the long-term secondary effects of conditions that begin in childhood.

Gillette collaborates with pediatric specialists at [The Children's Heart Clinic](#) to provide expert services and support for our patients.

In addition, [Ann Dunnigan, MD](#), Cardiologist, sees patients at Gillette who have neuromuscular conditions.



[Ann Dunnigan, MD](#)

[Cardiologist](#)

Locations



[St. Paul Campus](#)

[Make An Appointment](#) **651-290-8707** [Refer a Patient](#) **651-325-2200**

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**.