

## Welcome to Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center

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The Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center is dedicated to the quality care of children and their families. We specialize in the care of children of all ages who are receiving care for cancer and other blood disorders. Your child will receive care from a team of oncology experts at Boston Children's and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Jimmy Fund Clinic.

The inpatient floors at Boston Children's that specialize in this care are:

- 6 North 617-355-8066
- 6 West 617-355-8069
- 6 East 617-355-8063
- 9 Northwest 617-355-8096

Outpatient care is provided at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute:

- Jimmy Fund Clinic, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor 617-632-3270

### HEALTH CARE TEAM

The specialized health care team caring for your child includes:

- **Nurses** work closely with all members of the team to plan and carry out your child's care, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They provide teaching and support. Please feel free to discuss your concerns or questions with any nurse caring for your child.
- The **Nurse Manager** oversees the unit's daily clinical and administrative needs. He/she is available to meet with you at any time.
- The **Nurse Director** is responsible for leading and managing the various neuroscience programs. He/she is also available to meet with families.
- **Clinical Assistants** will care for your child under the direction of a nurse.
- A **Case Manager** works with the nursing staff to make sure that all home care needs and supplies are arranged before your child leaves the hospital.
- A **Nurse Practitioner** is a registered nurse with advanced formal training who may be responsible for your child's care or perform procedures. He/she works in collaboration with physicians and nurses.
- **Attending Physician, Fellows and Residents, Physician Assistants, and Nurse Practitioners**—these clinicians work together to manage your child's care. The **Attending Physician** is the most senior doctor on the health care team, and is ultimately responsible for your child's care. A **Fellow** is a pediatrician who is training in pediatric hematology/oncology. A **Resident** is a doctor with training in pediatrics.

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**Physician Assistants** and **Nurse Practitioners** are clinicians with an advanced degree with training in pediatrics. The health care team will see your child every day and will talk with you about how your child is doing.

- A psychosocial clinician is assigned to every family. This clinician may be a **Staff Social Worker or Psychologist, or a Social Work Psychology Intern**. As members of the Pediatric Psychosocial division, they will follow your child at Children's Hospital Boston as well as at the Jimmy Fund Clinic, allowing for consistency of care throughout treatment. They specialize in providing counseling for the entire family, including siblings. This can include parent counseling and child guidance, play therapy, talk therapy and distraction techniques to help your child through difficult medical procedures. These clinicians will work closely with the medical team to provide you with individualized care.
- **Resource Specialists** from the Division of Psychosocial Services assist families with concrete resources, including transportation, accommodations, and financial aid. They help families in need apply for financial assistance from local, regional, and federal programs for which they may be eligible.
- **Child Life Specialists** offer developmental play as a way for children to express fears or concerns and understand the hospital environment. They also provide activities and programs as a diversion from hospital routines. Child Life Specialists may also visit your child at the bedside and may also organize group activities in each unit's activity room, enabling children to socialize with their peers. Child Life Specialists can also help arrange for a tutor through your child's school.
- **Registered Dietitians** work as part of the health care team to help patients and families with nutrition and diet concerns.
- **Administrative Assistant** works at the front desk and will answer questions and help you with services you may need.
- **Patient and Family Education Specialists** are located in the Resource Room and can help patients and families find resources about their child's disease and treatment, and provide support programs.
- **Physical Therapists** work as part of the health care team to help patients maintain physical strength during treatment.

## PARENTS' ROLES

- We understand that parents know their child better than anyone else. You are an important part of the health care team. Dana Farber/Children's Hospital Cancer Center provides family centered care. We encourage parents and other key family members to be as involved as possible with their child's care.
- Parents or guardians are welcome to stay in the hospital 24 hours a day. Only one parent may stay at the bedside overnight. Siblings and visitors outside of the immediate family may visit between noon and 8 p.m.
- If you leave the hospital or clinic, please let your child's nurse know when you will be gone and where you can be reached.
- When you are not at the hospital, you may call to speak with your child's nurse. For your child's protection, information is only given to parents or legal guardians.

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## INFECTION CONTROL

- Hand washing, for at least 15 seconds, is the best way to help prevent the spread of infection. Whenever you enter your child's room please wash your hands. You may use the sink located in your child's room or as an alternative, you may also clean your hands by using Purell® in the dispensers outside the room.
- To prevent the spread of germs and diseases, such as colds and flu, do not touch any child but your own and do not visit in any other patient room.
- If you are ill, please tell your child's health care provider.
- At times, patients may need special precautions to prevent the spread of infection. Staff and visitors will wear gowns, gloves and sometimes masks. These precautions will be explained to you.
  - If your child is on precautions, you must also wash your hands when you leave his/her room, before entering any common areas.
  - If a patient is on any contact precautions, siblings may not be in any of the common areas.

## Contact Us

**For patient care assistance, please call the following phone numbers:**

- Jimmy Fund Clinic (617) 632-3270  
Business Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Page Operator (617) 632-3352  
Off hours: weekdays after 5 p.m., holidays, and weekends  
Page pediatric hematology/oncology fellow on call
- Life Threatening Emergencies dial 911