Pediatric Residency Program

Consider Your Future

University of Texas Southwestern Medical School | Children’s Health
Consider:

- The care you give is a reflection of who you are
- Residency teaches you how to be a student for life
- Your training extends to the entire community
- What you believe about yourself as a physician will evolve
- Strangers can become family and a new city home

And yes, even some apprehension. These emotions are familiar to most medical students as they work through selecting a residency program. I remember those feelings well and, while it was an exciting time, I still recall the personal impact of the decision. It’s one that will shape your development as a physician, your career, your life. We feel the importance of this process, too, as we strive to thoughtfully select individuals each year to join our residency program.

At the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, we partner with Children’s Health, which serves as our primary pediatric teaching facility. Through these two institutions, we’re able to offer residents the latest in medical research and education while providing the best possible care for the children who count on us. We consider several factors when we assess prospective residents, nationally competitive academic performance being just the start. We’re drawn to students with a passion and ability to care for a diverse North Texas population with complex and challenging clinical issues. We believe teamwork and innovation lead to higher quality medical care and we consistently attract residents who believe likewise. We appreciate working with intelligent colleagues who have natural curiosity and the desire to learn, and – above all else -- who manifest a profound commitment to improve society through service. In short, we’re looking for residents who can become the best physicians of their generation.

So, consider this: If you’re looking for a residency that will challenge and develop you personally and professionally, celebrate your strengths and help you overcome shortcomings, and guide you toward your chosen career path, then ours may be the place for you. On the following pages, we’ve highlighted a selection of program features and principles that may interest you – from global health and child advocacy to tailored electives and meaningful research. These are just a start. If you’d like to learn more about our program, I invite you to call us or visit us online (information on back panel). I look forward to meeting you.

Jeff McKinney, M.D., Ph.D.
Vice Chair of Education, Department of Pediatrics
Director, Pediatric Residency Training Program
Professor of Pediatric Infectious Diseases
Harry W. Bass, Jr. Professorship in Pediatric Education
UT Southwestern Distinguished Teaching Professor
Distinguished Institutions

The Pediatric Residency Training Program is coordinated by the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in partnership with Children’s Health and Parkland Memorial Hospital. UT Southwestern, a world-renowned academic medical center, is known for its research and is widely respected for teaching and training the next generation of leaders in patient care, biomedical science and disease prevention. UT Southwestern’s distinguished faculty includes Nobel Prize winners as well as pioneers in biomedicine. Physicians focus on quality, safety and service with one goal in mind, to deliver patient care that brings UT Southwestern’s scientific advances to the bedside.

Children’s Health, the primary pediatric teaching facility for UT Southwestern, is devoted to the training of future generations of physicians through its participation in the Pediatric Residency Program. The hospital is one of the largest and most advanced hospitals in the United States and has experienced phenomenal growth since its inception in 1913. As the only academic health care facility in North Texas dedicated exclusively to the care of newborn and pediatric patients, Children’s Health provides a unique opportunity for residents to participate in the delivery of state-of-the-art Newborn Nursery and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. With more than 10,000 births each year, our residents’ time spent in the delivery suites also provides them with invaluable experience.

Teaching Excellence

The Department of Pediatrics at UT Southwestern has more than 300 faculty members who serve as clinicians, educators and researchers. The depth and breadth of faculty engagement with the mentoring of our house officers is remarkable. In annual surveys, our faculty consistently point to our training program as one of the fundamental core strengths of our institution.

Program Highlights

- Accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
- Three-year program with variety and flexibility in training
- Innovative X-Y schedule that includes experiential training, didactic lectures and tools to create an individualized curriculum
- Over 30 unique continuity clinic sites throughout DFW
- Opportunities to serve diverse children and families from our metroplex of more than six million people
- Career development and guidance for a wide variety of post-residency plans
- 30 Categorical Pediatrics Residency positions per year
- Physician Scientist Training Program in Pediatrics (PSTP2)
- Child Neurology & Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Residency Program
- Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program
- More than 17 pediatric subspecialty fellowships

Educational Conferences

We are committed to equipping physicians with critical thinking skills through hands-on experience. Conferences offer residents multiple opportunities each week to learn from faculty and each other. Interdepartmental morning rounds, grand rounds, department multidisciplinary conferences, noon conferences, resident midday case reports, academic half days, journal clubs, simulation half days, and career development conferences give you the opportunity to integrate didactic teaching into the clinical setting.

Individualized Curriculum

Our residency program explores novel approaches to the traditional core rotation structure to promote optimal, forward thinking education and wellness. This is evident in our recent transition to an X-Y schedule through the ACGME “Advancing Innovation in Residency Education” pilot study. One of the strongest assets to our program is the diversity of our residents’ interests, which is why we are so strongly invested in the Individualized Curriculum. Each resident’s individualized curriculum is determined by her or his learning needs and career plans and is developed with the guidance of a faculty mentor.

Electives By You, For You

Your goals are as unique and diverse as you are. Our approach to electives gives you flexibility to build a curriculum that matches your personal and professional goals. Residents receive advice on how to create a coherent plan that prepares them for their next steps. Many residents also design their own robust custom electives. In the past, residents have also participated in electives at other sites such as The Hutchinson Center, Rio Grande Valley, Indian Health Services, and Liberia.

Here is just a sample of the more than 35 unique electives we offer:
- Summer camps for children with diabetes, sickle cell, epilepsy, etc.
- Bone Marrow Transplant
- Global Health International Electives
- Sports Medicine
- Palliative Care
- Hepatology
- Genetics & Metabolism
- Cardiovascular Intensive Care
- Transport Team
- Fetal Center and Prenatal Consults
- Advanced Medical Spanish
- GENCIS (Gender Affirming Care) Clinic

Below is an example of a weekly schedule while on a 2-week orange block (Amb Care + Clinic)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amb Care</td>
<td>Amb Care</td>
<td>Amb Care</td>
<td>Amb Care</td>
<td>Amb Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>Clinic</td>
<td>Clinic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: R= residents receive 2 weeks block + 2 weeks flex block. For more details, please refer to the official schedule.
Scholarly Projects

Our scholarly projects allow residents to explore a topic and have rigorous engagement to produce meaningful outcomes. The projects are resident driven and developed over the course of the entire three years of residency, satisfying the desire to complement day to day work with projects that have a longer maturation over time.

Current projects fall within the fields of Advocacy, Quality Improvement, Medical Education, Biomedical or Clinical Research, and Global Health. All residents share their project in a poster symposium at the end of their third year. Residents are encouraged to publish, and present their project at local, state, and national meetings.

RECENT PROJECTS INCLUDE:
- Intracellular Mechanisms of Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction – Stephen Spurgn, M.D. PSTP2 R’19
- Correlation Between Immigration-Related Fear and Food Insecurity Among Households in Colonias of Hidalgo County, TX – Sindhu Sudanagunta, M.D. R’19
- Improving Clinical Feedback: Encouraging Goal-Directed Feedback from Senior Residents to Interns – Mary Villani, M.D. R’19
- Cytomegalovirus Infection as a Cause of Fever and Morbidity among Pediatric Cancer Patients Receiving Chemotherapy – Zach Most, M.D. R’18
- Why Brain Criticality is Clinically Relevant: A Scoping Review - Vincent Zimmern, M.D. Child Neurology R’20

Advocacy

Just as we work to develop residents into excellent clinicians, we work equally hard to give you the skills needed to be an effective child advocate for the rest of your career. Every resident in our program receives frontline advocacy and community health training as part of our core curriculum. The Community Pediatrics rotation is completed by every intern featuring exploration of social determinants of health that affect the well-being of children and families in North Texas. Residents learn about poverty, food insecurity, health disparities, access to health insurance, homelessness, toxic stress, and much more.

CURRENT PARTNERS INCLUDE:
- Dallas County Health and Human Services
- The Family Place Domestic Violence Shelter
- Lumin Bachman Lake Community School
- Medical Legal Partnership
- Nexus Recovery Center
- North Texas Food Bank
- Parkland HOMES Mobile Clinic
- Perot Museum
- Team Kid Power
- Vogel Alcove Daycare for Homeless Children
- Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Program

Global Health

We are committed to equipping our residents to care for all pediatric patient populations, whether here in Dallas or across the globe. The Pediatric Global Health Education Program was created to mentor residents and offer training in international medicine and public health.

Our residents travel around the globe to gain experience in delivering health care in developing nations. During their international rotations at over 25 different sites to date, residents have helped to initiate lasting impact projects such as community health worker trainings, Helping Babies Breathe midwifery trainings, developmental screenings, preventative health programs and continuing education seminars. Residents can also travel domestically to care for specific patient populations through our border health elective as well as in the Navajo Nation. Additionally, our endowment-funded Global Health Interest Group joins residents, students and faculty from across disciplines to take part in discussions, seminars and skills workshops.

Twice a year, the Dallas Global Health Elective is offered to increase knowledge and improve skills needed for practicing medicine in limited resource settings. It is a multidisciplinary 4-week rotation combining online didactic modules, hands-on training, group activities, and case-based simulations to prepare residents to deliver holistic care abroad.

Continuity Clinic

Our residency has a unique and impactful opportunity to provide primary care in a variety of communities throughout the metroplex. Residents are assigned to a clinic site where they care for patients and are supervised by board-certified pediatricians who provide mentoring and expertise in community primary care. During the course of their training, residents are able to build a patient panel allowing them to learn growth and development by observing their patients over time.

There are over 30 clinic sites that residents may be assigned to for all three years to build a relationship with one of the 45 board-certified pediatricians who serve as volunteer faculty.

MAP OF OUR CURRENT CLINIC SITES:
Wellness

Wellness is an integral component here at our residency program. Our residents work hard, and we understand how pivotal it is to incorporate wellness within our curriculum. Our wellness initiatives begin during orientation and are reinforced throughout residency. These include but are not limited to...

- Clear and concise policies regarding coverage for illness/fatigue
- Fatigue/burnout recognition and management
- Faculty advisor for each resident
- Friendly resident cohort events
- Wellness sessions (yoga, meditation, mindfulness)
- Narrative Writing in Medicine
- Resident-led social events
- Meaning in Medicine Book Club
- Big/Little sibling system
- Debriefing sessions after patient deaths
- Faculty-led Zumba classes
- Annual faculty vs. resident softball game

Our residents also have access to the UTSW GME Resident Wellness and Counseling Center, which is covered via our health insurance.

Annual Residency Events

- Intern Orientation – June
  Our program excitedly awaits the arrival of our new interns each year. During the week-long event, the interns learn everything they need to know to be an excellent resident. There are a lot of fun activities and social events with the senior residents mixed in!

- Residents as Leaders – August
  This PL-2 retreat focuses on preparing our residents for the new roles they will encounter as a senior resident in a laid-back setting (including a home cooked meal from our Program Director)!

- Winter Solstice Party – December
  All residents receive protected time to gather together and celebrate all the hard work they have put in so far. It’s also a great excuse to dress up in your favorite festive attire!

- Intern Retreat – January
  The intern class takes a well-deserved weekend retreat away from clinical duties to focus on reflecting, socializing, team bonding, and relaxing.

- Graduation – June
  Our annual graduation ceremony is a time to celebrate the many accomplishments of our graduating class in addition to the culmination of another fantastic year. All classes and grads’ families and friends are invited, and coverage is provided.

Dallas prides itself on its friendly culture, entrepreneurial spirit, flair for style and innovation, and outstanding quality of life. It is the ninth largest city in the United States with more than 1.3 million residents in over 300 square miles. Combined with Fort Worth, it forms the fourth largest U.S. metropolitan area, allowing for diversity in its population and range of activities.

Living in Dallas is made easy by its moderate weather, affordable cost of living, and highly diversified economy with 18 area businesses named as Fortune 500 companies. Whether you prefer living in a dense, urban, walkable neighborhood or a quieter locale with room for a spacious home and a yard, you will be able to find something for you within easy range of work.

Recently named Restaurant City of the Year by Bon Appétit magazine, the greater Dallas area has a thriving dining scene with authentic cuisine and grocery stores from many different cultures. The city has the largest contiguous urban arts district in the nation, which features national exhibits, world class architecture, and diverse concerts. Dallas is also home to professional sports teams from every major sport along with numerous parks, trails, and lakes to feed your wild side. And it would be remiss of us to not mention the historic Texas State Fair, featuring “Big Tex.”

Our residency program prides itself on being a tight knit group who serve as friends and family when away from home. Our program has a strong sense of teamwork which translates easily into camaraderie outside of the hospital. As one third-year resident said, “Getting away from work helps us recharge and appreciate what we’re doing at the hospital. But we still seek each other out while away from work because we’ve created these great friendships. We’re like family.”

Salary & Benefits

- Annual salary is usually around $64,000, which increases per post-graduate year of training
- Major contributions to medical, dental, vision, life, and medical malpractice insurance
- Free parking at Children’s
- White coats and scrubs – 1 each per year
- Membership to American Academy of Pediatrics and Texas Pediatric Society
- Support for research conference presentations
- Badge funds provided for meals based on number of night shifts
- Lunch provided at noon conference Monday through Friday
Our Alumni Network

Upon completion of our residency program, our residents are well-equipped for the next stage of their careers. Consistent with our commitment to training excellent physicians for all niches in pediatrics, our residents’ plans after graduation vary from year to year. The overall trends in post-graduation plans are compiled in the pie chart below, which includes data from over 400 residents from 2008 to 2020.

For a detailed list of our fellowship matches for the past 12 years, please visit our residency website (pediatricresidents.com) to learn more!

We are proud to have an alumni network in a wonderful variety of primary care practices, hospitals, and subspecialties across the country. We also have a handful of alumni practicing overseas – including Cardiology in Guinea and Emergency Medicine in Argentina! No matter where you go after residency, you will find a UTSW Pediatric Residency alumna or alumnus ready to welcome you with open arms.

There are a multitude of ways we keep in touch with our residents and alumni, including via our social media accounts:
- Facebook: UTSW Pediatric Residency Group
- Instagram: @utswpedsres
- Twitter: @utswpedsres

Children’s Health is growing and the same nationally renowned pediatric care provided by Children’s Medical Center for over 100 years is making a difference in more places than ever before. With two full-service hospitals and multiple specialty centers, we are able to provide an expanded breadth of care and meet patients where they are. Through the Children’s Health system, young patients and their families are receiving the highest level of care and treatment across North Texas.

Children’s Health offers more than 50 pediatric specialty and subspecialty programs ranging from simple eye exams to specialized treatment in areas such as heart disease, endocrinology, hematology-oncology, and cystic fibrosis.

Our mission at Children’s Health has always been to make life better for children. We have a long-standing commitment to our community that includes advocacy, education and preventive care, as well as making sure that all children are insured. We are proud to dedicate ourselves to this cause and invite you to join our mission.