A New Era of World-Class Heart Care

The Heart Center

Dedication. Compassion. Expertise.
In April 2011, University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital opened a state-of-the-art facility with dedicated space for The Heart Center, which includes a cardiovascular intensive care unit and renovated outpatient clinic spaces. Our center offers a full range of heart care and treatments for children, including ablation, ventricular-assist devices, catheterization, surgery and transplant.

In partnership with the University of Minnesota, The Heart Center provides a variety of clinical trials and therapies to ensure the best possible outcomes for heart patients. We collaborate with health care professionals from around the world to treat children with congenital and acquired heart defects. Our specialists have earned national and international recognition for leading-edge heart research and comprehensive care.

Applying a New Standard to Heart Care

For more than 50 years, our cardiologists, surgeons, nurses and other medical specialists have achieved many remarkable medical firsts, including:

- Performing the world’s first infant heart transplant
- Implanting the first Berlin Heart® EXCOR pediatric ventricular-assist device in Minnesota
- Conducting the upper Midwest’s first Stage I Hybrid Norwood procedure
- Opening Minnesota’s first hybrid cardiac-catheterization lab

Proven Success and High Standards

The Heart Center has experienced record volumes in heart transplants and echocardiograms, indicating trust in our experience and high quality care. To assist with the influx of patients, we recently welcomed several new medical staff members to the University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital heart team. Many are part of the cardiovascular intensive care team in the new facility.

In 2011, U.S. News & World Report ranked our pediatric cardiology and heart surgery program among the best in the nation. We are proud that our commitment to advance pediatric cardiac care is nationally recognized.

At University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital, we specialize in world-class care that makes a difference. We look forward to your continued partnership in 2012.

Sincerely,

John Bass, MD
Co-Director
The Heart Center

James St. Louis, MD
Co-Director
The Heart Center

Caroline George, MD
Co-Director
The Heart Center
A HOSPITAL INSPIRED BY AND DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The new University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital facility is designed to provide an exceptional healing environment for children and families. It’s the only children’s hospital in Minnesota that’s part of an academic health center, and home to one of the nation’s top 20 pediatric research programs.

Our care team includes dedicated cardiac care providers, compassionate nurses, world-renowned doctors and researchers from various departments at the University of Minnesota, including the Department of Pediatrics. Their medical breakthroughs improve lives nation- and worldwide.

University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital provides unborn babies, infants, children and young adults with leading-edge medical treatments, technologies and services. Our extensive team of experienced health care professionals offers clinical care in more than 50 pediatric and maternal specialties.
“We now have an outstanding physical facility that reflects the quality of care we've provided for years. This new facility offers families a whole new level of service.”

Joseph P. Neglia, MD, MPH
Physician-in-Chief, University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital
Chair, University of Minnesota Medical School, Department of Pediatrics

→ In 2011, U.S. News & World Report recognized University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital among the nation’s best with a record eight specialty services rankings.

→ The Heart Center at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital is featured as one of the best in the nation for cardiology and heart surgery.
Innovation

University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital includes a dedicated hybrid catheterization lab. Especially designed for children, the lab combines surgery and catheter-based treatments. A dedicated lab benefits patients, physicians and the hospital’s efficiency by allowing catheterizations to be conducted with a surgeon available if needed. If catheterization isn’t effective, surgery may be performed immediately.

We also offer the new Melody® Transcatheter Pulmonary Valve, the first transcatheter valve approved for commercial use in the United States. This device can help restore the pulmonary valve while delaying open heart surgery.

Equally remarkable is our approach to care. We recognize that loved ones are the primary source of a child’s strength and support. Therefore, collaboration that includes patients, families and staff at every level of our organization is the cornerstone of our culture.

When it comes to caring for children’s hearts, our cardiologists, surgeons and nurses specialize in making a difference.

- Dedicated cardiovascular professionals, cardiothoracic surgeons and interventional cardiologists who work side-by-side to repair congenital heart defects in children
- Family and patient-friendly private rooms promote faster healing, and help to prevent infections and other complications
- Academic research, innovation and skilled practitioners provide care that’s at the forefront of pediatric heart care

Medical Breakthroughs

University of Minnesota physicians have pioneered innovative medical firsts, including:

World’s First

- 1952: Successful open heart surgery using hypothermia
- 1954: Repair of a ventricular septal defect
- 1954: Repair of tetralogy of Fallot in a child
- 1958: Use of a portable pacemaker in a child with heart block

Minnesota’s First

- 2007: Opened a state-of-the-art hybrid catheterization lab
- 2008: Implanted a Berlin Heart EXCOR® pediatric ventricular-assist device

Upper Midwest’s First

- 2007: Conducted the first Stage I Hybrid Norwood procedure

Specialty Heart Care

The Heart Center at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital provides specialty care for (but not limited to):

- Acquired heart diseases
  - Cardiomyopathy
  - Endocarditis
  - Kawasaki disease
- Congenital heart defects in neonates and children
- Adult congenital heart disease
- Congestive heart failure/cardiac transplantation
- Cardiac arrhythmias
  - Heart block
  - Palpitations
  - Prolonged Q-T syndrome
  - Tachycardia/bradycardia
  - Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome
- Chest pain
- Fainting
- Hyperlipidemia
- Murmurs

Comprehensive Heart Programs

- Adult Congenital Heart Disease and Cardiovascular Genetics Program
- Pediatric Heart Failure and Heart Transplant Program
- Pediatric Preventive Cardiology Program
**Pediatric Cardiovascular Patient Volumes**

The Heart Center at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital has experienced significant growth in patient volume in recent years.

**Pediatric Surgical Cases**

- **2009**: 259
- **2010**: 305
- **2011**: 374

44 percent growth from 2009-2011

**Pediatric Electrophysiology Procedures**

- **2009**: 25
- **2010**: 38
- **2011**: 65

58 percent growth from 2009-2011

**Pediatric Catheterization Procedures**

- **2009**: 285
- **2010**: 254
- **2011**: 349

22 percent growth from 2009-2011

**Pediatric Echocardiogram Procedures**

- **2007**: 4342
- **2008**: 4560
- **2009**: 7480
- **2010**: 7639
- **2011**: 8035

8 percent growth from 2007-2011

**Pediatric Survival Rates (4 years)**

- **Ventricular Septal Defect**: 100%
- **Tetralogy of Fallot**: 100%
- **Complete Atrioventricular Canal Defect**: 100%
- **D-Transposition of the Great Arteries**: 95%
- **Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (transplant-free)**: 85%
CONVENIENT OUTPATIENT CARE

Outpatient pediatric heart care is offered at five locations throughout the Twin Cities, including:

**St. Paul**
University of Minnesota Physicians
Pediatric Specialty Clinic
225 N. Smith Ave., Suite 504
651-265-7575

**Edina**
Pediatric Heart Clinic at Fairview
Southdale Hospital
6405 France Ave. S.
952-924-5000

**Maple Grove**
Fairview Maple Grove Medical Center
14500 99th Ave. N.
763-898-1000

**Burnsville**
Specialty Clinic for Children
303 E. Nicollet Blvd., Suite 372
952-892-2910

**Minneapolis**
Explorer Clinic:
Pediatric Specialty Care
East Building, 12th Floor
2450 Riverside Ave.
612-365-6777

ADULT CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE AND CARDIOVASCULAR GENETICS PROGRAM

The likelihood that infants and children with congenital heart defects will survive into adulthood has increased up to 90 percent because of advances in medical technology. In response to this impressive trend, in 2009 University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview and University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital partnered to create the Adult Congenital Heart Disease and Cardiovascular Genetics Program.

This program is the first of its kind in Minnesota to offer comprehensive heart care for people born with congenital cardiovascular anomalies that require ongoing evaluation and treatment through adolescence and adulthood. The program is staffed by one cardiologist for adults, three cardiologists for children, an echocardiographer, a genetic counselor and a nurse coordinator. A variety of inpatient and outpatient services are provided, including:

- Electrocardiographic and radiologic imaging
- Diagnostic and interventional catheterization
- Genetic counseling and testing
- Cardiac surgery, including ventricular assist devices and transplantation
- Hybrid procedures
- Noncardiac services (obstetrics/gynecology, genetics)
- Electrophysiologic studies

Since the program’s inception in 2009, we’ve treated more than 500 patients with congenital heart disease and have seen an annual patient growth of more than 40 percent.

→ SINCE THE PROGRAM’S INCEPTION IN 2009, WE’VE TREATED MORE THAN 500 PATIENTS.
Bridging the Gap
The heart failure and heart transplant program at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital strives to ensure that children have access to innovative heart treatments. Since 1981, we’ve helped more than 80 children receive a life-saving heart transplant.

In 2011, we doubled patient volumes and continue to offer leading-edge treatments allowing children to keep their own hearts as long as possible. Treatments include ventricular-assist devices (VAD—the Berlin Heart EXCOR® and the HeartMate® II). During the past year, the heart failure program weaned two children off a VAD so they no longer needed a heart transplant. In addition, VADs allowed six children more time as they waited for a heart transplant.

Education and Research
Our heart failure and heart transplant program pursues research in multiple areas of cardiac care. We strive to be at the forefront of education and research to offer children the best heart care options.

The Heart Center team is involved with several heart failure research projects, including:
• FDA trials associated with the Berlin Heart
• Outcomes of fetal listing for cardiac transplantation
• Pediatric heart studies measuring long-term outcomes across multiple institutions

A total of 11 pediatric patients, including two neonates and nine children (ages one to five), have received a Berlin Heart at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital. Overall, 82 percent have been successfully weaned from the VAD or received a heart transplant. These outcomes are among the highest in the nation.
Prior to birth, Regan was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, a congenital heart condition that her father, TJ, and oldest sister, Reese, also have. Much to her parent’s delight, Regan’s first five months of life progressed as any healthy baby’s should. However, one month later, Regan’s appetite diminished and her fussiness increased. “I thought I was taking Regan in for something routine and never imagined that her heart was beginning to fail,” says Nora, Regan’s mother. The family was devastated to learn that Regan was in heart failure. How could that be possible? Her sister and father have the same condition, and are both healthy. Regan’s parents met with cardiologist Rebecca Ameduri, MD, at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital to learn about the Berlin Heart® EXCOR. This life-saving ventricular-assist device is used to bridge pediatric patients for transplant. “We really had no other option,” says Nora.

On May 4, 2011, six-month-old Regan underwent surgery to place the Berlin Heart. James St. Louis, MD, pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon and co-director of The Heart Center at University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital, was pleased with the surgery. Regan was the second youngest patient to receive a Berlin Heart and the first heart surgery in the new hospital. As the days progressed, Regan’s condition improved significantly. Nora was pleased with the level of care and attention her daughter received during their 71-day hospital stay. Nora notes that the doctors and nurses took the time to answer questions. “I felt good about the plan and was actively involved in Regan’s day-to-day care.”

Happy and Healthy Outcome

After being on the Berlin Heart for seven weeks, Regan received what Nora calls her angel heart. Thirteen days post-transplant, Regan went home to be with her family. Today, she’s busy spending time with her family and talking up a storm with her sisters. The Nordling family is thankful that their prayers were answered, and Regan is happy and healthy with her new angel heart.
Prevention is Key

It may be alarming to learn that many well-recognized adult health conditions such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure, obesity, stroke and diabetes are increasingly common among children and adolescents. These conditions can lay the foundation for heart disease in adulthood.

Multidisciplinary Collaboration

At University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital, a team of pediatric specialists, including a cardiologist, dietician, endocrinologist and gastroenterologist, aim to reduce the risk of heart disease in children. These experts work together to develop a personalized plan for children and their families that takes lifestyle into consideration. A family-centered approach is essential for a successful outcome.

Comprehensive Care

The Pediatric Preventive Cardiology Program includes:

• Pediatric Lipid Clinic
• Pediatric Weight Management Clinic
• Type 2 Diabetes Clinic

As the first program of its kind in Minnesota, it provides an integrated approach for children and families by assessing the risks and lifestyle changes, and offering clinical research study opportunities.

Since the program began in 2009, more than 350 children and adolescents have been treated for conditions such as obesity, hypertension, Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, and high cholesterol. Pediatric patients have the combined goal of improving their quality of life and preventing heart disease.

A FAMILY-CENTERED APPROACH IS ESSENTIAL FOR A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME.
THE HEART CENTER TEAM

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University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital is designed to provide the most supportive, comfortable and clinically advanced environment for young patients and their families.

**Pediatric Emergency Department**

**24/7 Care**

Staffed by national experts in pediatric emergency medicine and research, pediatric emergency medicine nurses, full-time child-family life specialists and care coordinators:

- Features eight state-of-the-art treatment rooms where parents have space to remain with their children.
- Offers two fully equipped trauma rooms that allow emergency staff to care for children with severe illnesses or injuries.

**Pediatric Radiology and Imaging Unit**

- Team includes a pediatric anesthesiologist, pediatric sedation nurses and a full-time concierge scheduler.
- Offers two state-of-the-art procedure rooms and 10 spacious treatment rooms, each tailored to provide diagnostic testing, monitoring or observation for young patients.

**Immediate Access to More Than 50 Pediatric and Maternal Specialties, including:**

- Behavioral health services
- Blood and marrow transplant
- Cancer care (hematology/oncology)
- Endocrinology (including diabetes care)
- Infectious diseases

**Convenient Family Centered Services**

- Hospitalists
- Interpreter services
- Occupational therapists
- Pediatric anesthesiologists

**Child-Family Life Specialists**

- Offer activities to reduce patient and family stress, including therapeutic play and child-appropriate supportive services such as hospital tours.
- Help families understand the medical environment, including how to cope with death, dying or bereavement.
- Develop individual and group activities to reduce stress, increase socialization, and promote growth and development.

**Social Workers**

- Specialize in assisting with the emotional, social and financial impact of the hospital experience.
- Offer counseling and coping techniques to young patients and their loved ones.
- Help children and families adapt to illness and treatment.

**Family Resource Center and Children’s Library**

- Offers professional staff to help families locate information about their children’s medical conditions.
- Provides online and print resources geared to young children and teens.
- Assists with creating a CaringBridge site, and connecting to organizations that help children and their families.

**Additional Features of University of Minnesota Amplatz Children’s Hospital**

- Patient rooms are private, which can aid in a faster recovery by reducing noise and interruptions while decreasing the spread of infections. Each patient room offers 35 percent more space than the average pediatric hospital room, providing space for parents to work, share a meal and sleep near their children.
- The latest electronic technology through the interactive GetWellNetwork®, allowing children to learn and play during their stay.
- A pediatric rehabilitation program that includes a therapy gymnasium with swings, a climbing wall and zip line.
- A feeding clinic where children with eating difficulties can work with a speech therapist, occupational therapist and a dietitian in one convenient visit.
University of Minnesota
Amplatz Children’s Hospital

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Referring Providers
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Discover more: uofmchildrenshospital.org

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