

Disorders of Sex Development

The term Disorders of Sex Development (DSD) refers to congenital conditions affecting the normal development of the chromosomal, gonadal and anatomical sex of a child resulting in challenging and complex concerns for the patient and their family. DSD typically occur early in pregnancy when the development of reproductive structures has been interrupted or altered. Many types of DSD are not life-threatening, but some can be associated with serious health risks.

The Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (CCHMC) DSD Center uses a multidisciplinary approach to help our patients and their families make informed decisions concerning appropriate care, testing, treatment and support throughout the patient's life.

Multidisciplinary Team

Our experienced team at CCHMC includes physicians from five Pediatric sub-specialty divisions including: Urology, Endocrinology, Gynecology, Human Genetics and Clinical Psychology. Combined with nurses, social workers and genetic counselors, our team works in collaboration to provide patients/families:

- Diagnosis, medical and/or surgical treatment and support services
- Coordination of multidisciplinary care (referrals, appointments, testing and procedures)
- Education and empowerment to obtain optimal care and support

"The CCHMC DSD Center is unique in that all disciplines are committed to provide comprehensive, one-stop, compassionate care to patients and families who are managing conditions that are emotionally challenging and have long term, psychosocial impact on the patient and family." Pramod Reddy, MD, Division Director, Pediatric Urology.

Conditions Treated

DSD encompasses a wide array of conditions requiring appropriately timed testing in order to reach an accurate diagnosis. Patients/families require coordinated care with focused expertise to ensure optimal patient outcomes. The DSD conditions/diagnoses treated include, but are not limited to:

- Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH)
- Partial Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (PAIS)
- Complete Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (CAIS)
- Complete or Partial Gonadal Dysgenesis
- 5-Alpha-Reductase Deficiency
- Severe Hypospadias
- Kallmann Syndrome

- Klinefelter Syndrome
- Fraser Syndrome
- Mayer, Rokitansky, Kuster, Hauser Syndrome
- Ovotesticular DSD
- Persistent Mullerian duct Syndrome
- Sex-chromosome mosaicism
- Testosterone synthesis defects
- XX testicular DSD
- Cloacal Exstrophy

Our mission is to provide excellent, innovative care improving the medical and quality-of-life outcomes of patients and families living with complex conditions of the genitourinary systems. Our care is centered in compassion, integrity and in regard for the patient and family and is designed to meet the needs of our families as partners in the care team. We provide family-centered care that is safe, effective and with respect for the dignity and individuality of the patient and their family.

Referral

Health care providers can discuss the care of a DSD patient with any member of the DSD team by calling the Physician Priority Link (PPL) hotline at: **513-636-7997** or **1-888-636-7997**

Parents or patients may self-refer or make an appointment by contacting the DSD coordinator, Kim Kennedy RN at: **513-803-4373 (4DSD)** Fax: **513-636-6753**

