Immune Deficiencies and Histiocytosis

The Immune Deficiency and Histiocytosis Program at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center is an international leader offering unique diagnostic testing capabilities, groundbreaking research and expert medical care for patients with immune deficiencies and histiocytic disorders.

HOW WE’RE DIFFERENT

A multidisciplinary team of subspecialists provides comprehensive, closely integrated care from the moment of diagnosis, led by internationally recognized Medical Director Alexandra (Lisa) H. Filipovich, MD. Through laboratory and clinical research, we are leading the way to a better understanding of the causes and treatment of these rare disorders.

Our Diagnostic Immunology Lab, which has established pediatric normal ranges for all tests we offer, is North America’s most extensive clinical reference laboratory for the diagnosis of primary immune deficiency disorders (PIDDS) and other immune deficiency conditions affecting children and adults.

Many attending physicians are immunologists in our Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT) program. They have special interest in transplantation for genetic disorders leading to primary immune deficiencies and bone marrow failure. These treatment regimens have improved survival rates and are now the international standard of care for immune deficiencies.

The program is designated a Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies Center of Excellence and home to a Jeffrey Modell Foundation Diagnostic Center for Primary Immunodeficiencies.

CONDITIONS TREATED

The immune deficiency and histiocytosis team at Cincinnati Children’s treats patients with more than 80 different kinds of immune deficiency and histiocytic disorders, including:

- Autoimmune Lymphoproliferative Syndrome (ALPS)
- Autosomal Recessive Hyper IgM Syndrome (HIGM2-HIGM4)
- Chronic Granulomatous Disease (CGD)
- Common Variable Immunodeficiency (CVID)
- Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)
- Hypogammaglobulinemia
- Immune Dysregulation, Polyendocrinopathy, Enteritis, X-linked (IPEX)
- Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis (LCH)
- Severe Combined Immunodeficiencies (SCIDs)
- X-linked Agammaglobulinemia (XLA)
- X-linked-hyper IgM syndrome / X-linked CD40 Ligand Deficiency (HIM)
- X-linked Lymphoproliferative Syndromes (XLP)
- X-linked NFkB Essential Modifier Deficiency (NEMO)
- Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome (WAS)
TREATMENT TEAM
Alexandra (Lisa) H. Filipovich, MD  
Program Medical Director  
Jacob (Jack) J.H. Blesing, MD, PhD  
Michael B. Jordan, MD  
Zeynep Kucuk, MD  
Ashish R. Kumar, MD, PhD  
Rebecca A. Marsh, MD  
Joseph S. Palumbo, MD  
Kimberly A. Risma, MD, PhD

TREATMENT APPROACH
Our specialists in immune deficiencies and histiocytosis are trained to manage each child’s care from diagnosis to cure, so we are able to offer continuous, comprehensive treatment overseen by the same doctor.

The initial evaluation can last from one to four days and includes:
- A thorough history and physical examination
- Blood tests
- Tests to assess how the disease is affecting the child’s body
- Consultation with relevant pediatric specialists
- An appointment with a social worker, who helps families connect with helpful resources
- Written summary and treatment recommendations provided to the patient’s family and referring physician

The Immune Deficiency and Histiocytosis Program offers a wide range of therapies, including medications, chemotherapy, blood and marrow transplantation, immunoglobulin therapy, plasma exchange, home-based therapies and gene therapy.

A Gene Therapy Program for treatment of X-linked SCID (Severe Combined Immunodeficiency) is currently open for enrollment and the cost of the treatment is subsidized by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

BY THE NUMBERS

1,300+ Bone marrow transplants performed in the program’s 21-year history

300 New patients seen annually at the Immune Deficiency Clinic

www.cincinnatichildrens.org

For urgent issues, or to speak with the specialist on call 24/7, call the Physician Priority Link at 1-888-987-7997. For international inquiries, call +1-513-636-3100 or email international@cchmc.org.