



# Cincinnati Children's Hospital Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit FY 2021 Annual Report

## Note from the Medical & Clinical Directors

In the past fiscal year, we have made slow but sure gains toward our pre-COVID way of delivering inpatient rehab services. All of our staff have returned to campus with interactions being face-to-face with patients and families, as opposed to virtual. However our meeting times have continued to rely on Microsoft Teams for communication in team meetings. Our patients are no longer restricted to the inpatient unit, and have been able to resume off unit passes. In the end, we realize there probably will not be a return to “the norm”, but will be a new norm that we learn to work within.

Our staff endured many changes to the day-to-day as well as ensured their level of care continued to function at a high level with all the restrictions in place. They provided support, many times going over and above, to the patients, families and each other during this unprecedented time. Their efforts underlined and confirmed what we already knew...they are at the heart of our inpatient rehab programs.

Our specialty programs continued to evolve and provided the direction and efforts needed to move our inpatient rehab unit forward. Results of their strategic plans and goals were noted in identification of evidenced based outcomes and investigation and addressing the needs for other possible rehab services, such as conversion and disorders of consciousness programs. As well, they participated in process improvement projects to focus on FIRST admissions, falls, and the return of satisfaction surveys. The communication and collaboration of these teams with Operational Excellence leadership has resulted in stronger programming for Inpatient Rehab Services.

Although our admissions have run a bit behind, we realize we have been directly affected through less elective surgeries and declined admissions to units who typically provide us with a higher number of inpatient rehab consults. As well, the FIRST Program battled with increased denials, which blocked an additional 17 admissions to our service. But, we maintained the number of external referrals and admissions, and also increased the number of modified patients to our program.

Through all of the challenges of this fiscal year, we continued to produce competitive outcomes compared to similar facilities, and high satisfaction ratings and comments from our patient's families. We are encouraged by the resilience of our staff who have weathered the restrictions of the pandemic, and look forward as we move into the future of our Inpatient Rehabilitation Programs.

Sincerely,

*David Pruitt, MD*  
Medical Director  
Inpatient Rehabilitation

*Sharon Chaney, PhD, RN, CENP*  
Clinical Director  
Inpatient Rehabilitation

# Pediatric Specialty Program

## Facts & Figures FY2021

Item	Data	Item	Data
Patients admitted	136	Patients discharged home	90%
Average length of stay	17.3 days	Patients participating in leisure activities 90 days post discharge	88%
Ages served	1 – 18 yrs.	Patients maintaining or improving overall function in program	100%
Average therapeutic hours	4.3/day	Overall favorable responses by families, (9's & 10's)	91%

## Accomplishments FY2021

- Improved Family Satisfaction Rate of return from 16% to 52% with process improvement project.
- Therapeutic Recreation developed virtual reality for patients returning to riding in a vehicle, and nationally highlighted by International Pediatric Rehabilitation Coalition.

## Goals FY2022

### Conversion Disorders

Develop workgroup for conversion disorders to evaluate next steps in the development of the program

### SEMLS

Develop workgroup for SEML patients admitted to IPRU to evaluation next steps in the program

### Diversity & Inclusion

Decrease rate of patients who do not keep appointments for OP follow-up

# Brain Injury Specialty Program

## Facts and Figures FY2021

Item	Data	Item	Data
Patients admitted	54	Patients discharged home	83%
Average length of stay	16.8 days	Patients participating leisure activities 90 days post discharge	94%
Ages served	1 – 18 yrs.	Patients maintaining or improving overall function in program	100%
Average therapeutic hours	4.6/ day	Overall favorable responses by families, (9's & 10's)	89%

## Accomplishments FY2021

- Developed components needed for a Disorders of Consciousness program and initiated with DOC patients in the Brain Injury Specialty Program.
- Initiated training and use of Rappaport with Disorders of Consciousness patients and used in specific rounds for Disorders of Consciousness patients.
- Developed outcome measures for OT, PT, ST, TR and Music Therapies. PT developed competencies for staff in use of PAMS and consistently using with brain injury patients.
- Developed and implemented a caregiver education group held weekly on inpatient rehab with leadership from social work, therapeutic recreation, and school services.

## Goals FY2022

### Disorders of Consciousness

1. Implement and evaluate the effectiveness of program plans when disorders of consciousness patients are admitted, and make changes as needed.
2. Educate and train staff about disorders of consciousness patients, care, and DOC program.

### Outcome Measures

1. Implement identified outcome measures (OT, Speech, TR, and Music)
2. Determine effectiveness for outcomes measurement of PAMS as administered by PT.

### Brain Injury Support Group

Track success of inpatient support group and make changes as needed.

# Cancer Specialty Program

## Facts and Figures FY2021

Item	Data	Item	Data
Patients admitted	26	Patients discharged home	93%
Average length of stay	14.4 days	Patients participating leisure activities 90 days post discharge	88%
Ages served	1 – 18 yrs.	Patients maintaining or improving overall function in program	100%
Average therapeutic hours	4.2/day	Overall favorable responses by families, (9's & 10's)	100%

## Accomplishments FY2021

- Developed toolbox of evaluations for cancer patients from PT, OT, & ST based on evidenced based outcomes.
- Increased modified program admissions by 50%.
- Quality of Life reported at 100% same, slightly improved, significantly improved 90 days post discharge.
- Overall Family Satisfaction 100% (all 9's & 10's)

## Goals FY2022

### Enhancement of Cancer Specialty Program

Develop how to formalize a patient admission into the program.

### Outcome Measures

Implement identified outcome measures (OT, Speech, TR, and Music)

# FIRST Specialty Program

## Facts and Figures FY2021

Item	Data	Item	Data
Patients admitted	28	Patients discharged home	96%
Average length of stay	20 days	Patients participating leisure activities 90 days post discharge	82%
Ages served	10 – 18 yrs.	Patients maintaining or improving overall function in program	100%
Average therapeutic hours	4.6/day	Overall favorable responses by families, (9's & 10's)	100%

## Accomplishments FY2021

- Completed a Lean project with colleagues from the Anderson Center to examine admission patterns related to the insurance authorization process.
- Published 2 papers examining sleep outcomes for FIRST patients.
- Presented the program at two national conferences, the 2020 Annual Assembly of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the 2021 Society of Pediatric Pain Medicine Conference.
- Invited to present the program to three academic and clinical groups; the CCHMC Colorectal Center, Utah State University, and Riley Children's Hospital.
- Published FIRST outcomes paper in the Clinical Journal of Pain in 2020 was nominated as a top 5 research paper within the Division of Behavioral Medicine & Clinical Psychology.

## Goals 2022

### Growth

Investigate the need and possibility of FIRST Day Hospital Program

### Admission Process

Review and revise pre-admission process

### Research

Complete research and draft article regarding patient outcomes, focusing on PT/OT measures, for further publication