

Texas Children's Newborn Center®

Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia Program

Texas Children's provides comprehensive care for infants with bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD), one of the most common and complex complications of extreme prematurity. Our multidisciplinary team cares for both inborn and transferred infants with severe chronic lung disease, pulmonary hypertension, feeding challenges, tracheostomy dependence and prolonged NICU stays.

Care is coordinated across the continuum, from NICU admission through discharge planning, home transition and dedicated multidisciplinary follow-up.

High-Volume Program, High-Acuity Expertise

88+

Patients
Annually

43%

Grade 2
BPD*

57%

Grade 3
BPD*

*Based on Jenson criteria.

Dedicated BPD Cohort and Family-Centered Care

Infants with moderate and severe BPD are cared for by a dedicated multidisciplinary cohort team with daily collaboration among Neonatology, Pulmonology and Cardiology specialists, promoting standardized clinical management, consistent family communication and continuity throughout hospitalization and follow-up. In addition, our team includes respiratory therapists, pharmacists, dietitians, developmental specialists, nurses and care coordinators who collaborate to address the complex needs of infants with severe chronic lung disease. Families are integrated as active members of the care team through structured education, discharge preparation and transition-to-home planning.

Program Leadership: Your Partners in BPD Care



Milenka Cuevas Guaman, MD
Co-Director, BPD Program



Natalie Villafranco, MD
Co-Director, BPD Program



Pulmonary Hypertension Expertise

Pulmonary hypertension is a common and significant comorbidity among infants with severe BPD. Texas Children's provides coordinated evaluation and management through specialists with expertise in neonatal pulmonary vascular disease.

Key capabilities include:

- Standardized screening and surveillance
- Dedicated pulmonary hypertension consultation
- Individualized treatment strategies
- Longitudinal monitoring throughout infancy and early childhood

Airway, Tracheostomy & Home Ventilation Support

For infants with the most severe forms of BPD, Texas Children's provides comprehensive airway evaluation, tracheostomy management, and long-term ventilatory support through collaboration with Otolaryngology (ENT), Pulmonology and Neonatology specialists.

Program expertise includes:

- Airway evaluation and management
- Tracheostomy placement and care coordination
- Home ventilator planning and discharge preparation
- Structured family and caregiver training, rooming-in home simulation to support safe discharge and transition to home

Advancing BPD Care:

Improving Outcomes Through Research and Innovation

Texas Children's faculty actively participate in clinical research, quality improvement initiatives, and national collaboratives focused on improving outcomes for infants with BPD.



Scan the QR Code

to view recent publications, presentations, and scholarly work from the Texas Children's BPD Program.



Why Refer to Texas Children's?

- High-acuity destination program for infants with moderate and severe BPD, including pulmonary hypertension, tracheostomy and ventilator dependence.
- Dedicated multidisciplinary cohort model providing coordinated inpatient, transition planning and longitudinal follow-up.
- Level IV NICU with specialized expertise in pulmonary hypertension, respiratory support, nutrition, developmental care and home ventilation.
- Comprehensive family education, caregiver training, rooming-in and discharge preparation designed to support successful transition to home.
- Dedicated multidisciplinary follow-up clinic supporting respiratory, growth, developmental and home ventilation needs after NICU discharge.



One Call Connects You to Expert Care

Speak directly with a Texas Children's physician for a peer-to-peer consultation, second opinion, or transfer request at **1-877-770-5550**.

- 24/7 Consultation and Transport Services: Immediate Dispatch
- Rapid Response by Texas Children's Kangaroo Crew, a highly trained team providing fast, safe, state-of-the-art transport by land and sky.
- Provider Call → Attending-to-Attending Consultation → Dispatch of Mobile Neonatal ICU Team



Your Patient. Our Shared Commitment.

We view referring providers as essential members of the care team. Our goal is to maintain open communication throughout the patient's hospitalization and support a seamless transition back to your care whenever appropriate.

- Real-Time Communication: Within 72 hours of admission, a Texas Children's attending neonatologist will contact you to discuss the patient's initial stabilization, diagnostic evaluation and treatment plan.
- Ongoing Provider Updates: Follow your patient's care and receive timely updates through our online provider portal, Texas Children's Link.



Additional Provider Resources

- Newborn Center Referring Provider Liaison: **Call 832-824-0981** for Texas Children's Link access, program information, patient follow-up, educational offerings and other inquiries.
- Provider Connect: Call **832-TCH-CARE (832-824-2273)** for assistance with referrals, accessing or navigating a Texas Children's service, or connecting with another on-call specialist for non-emergent requests.

Multiple Locations. One Expert Team.

Texas Children's Hospital

6621 Fannin St.
Houston, TX 77030

Texas Children's Hospital The Woodlands

17580 I-45 S.
The Woodlands, TX 77384

Texas Children's Pavilion for Women

6651 Main St.
Houston, TX 77030

Texas Children's Hospital Austin

9835 N. Lake Creek Pkwy.
Austin, TX 78717

texaschildrens.org/nicu

