Liver Transplantation — a Promising New Option for Treating Metabolic Disease

The world-renowned transplant team at the Hillman Center for Pediatric Transplantation at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC is exploring new options for the treatment of metabolic disease, including the potential use of liver or hepatocyte transplantation as a therapeutic modality. Specific metabolic diseases that are candidates for liver transplantation include Maple Syrup Urine Disease, Urea Cycle Defects, Propionic Acidemia, Methylmalonic Acidemia, Glycogen Storage Disease, and Phenylketonuria. As outcomes for liver transplants improve and our knowledge of metabolic disease grows, the range of disorders suitable for this approach continues to expand. Our experts will discuss various metabolic diseases in the context of live transplantation at a symposium sponsored by Children’s Hospital at the International Congress of Inborn Errors of Metabolism (ICEM) 2013. Sept 5 in Hershey, Pa.

View our outcomes for Pediatric Liver Transplantation
Watch our live transplant surgery video
Learn about clinical trials for liver transplantation
Join us for “Liver Transplantation for Metabolic Disease” Symposium at ICEM 2013

U.S. Study Shows Increase in Liver Transplantation for Hepatoblastoma

Liver transplantation for hepatoblastoma, the most common liver malignancy in children, is on the rise because tumors are being detected earlier, improving outcomes for these sick patients, according to a recent study led by Rakesh Sinha, MD, Director of Pediatric Transplant Research at the Hillman Center for Pediatric Transplantation at Children’s Hospital. Children’s hosts all other centers for liver transplantation for liver tumors.

Read more about the hepatoblastoma study

Patient Story: After Liver Transplant Surgery, Jakob No Longer Suffers From MSUD

Jakob Jasin was born with maple syrup urine disease (MSUD), a metabolic disease that causes amino acids to accumulate in the body, creating a toxic effect that can lead to brain swelling, neurological damage, and death. The disease derives its name from the sweet smell of the urine. The Jasin family consulted with several metabolic and transplant experts and were led to Children’s Hospital, where the transplant team agreed to list Jakob for a liver transplant.

Read about Jakob’s journey

Telemedicine Program Expands to Mexico

In March, a telemedicine collaboration was launched between Children’s Hospital and the Hospital Infantil de Mexico Federico Gomez in Mexico City, the oldest dedicated pediatric hospital in Latin America, which is a tertiary referral center for all pediatric subspecialties and a national referral center for complex pediatric cardiac surgery. This program encompasses both consultations for preoperative and minimally invasive surgery and team participation in weekly surgical rounds.

April 2012

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In the news:
Study Reveals Success Rate of Minimally Invasive Surgical Approaches in Infants
Exposure to Vaccines, Care Changes Linked to Symptoms in Patients With Diabetes

Join us for these events:
Join us for these academic conferences and lectures.
Three Rivers Pediatric Update, May 16-18
WEBINAR: The Impact of Vaccines on the Baby Who Has Diabetes — What the Health Care Provider Should Know, May 16
Liver Transplantation for Metabolic Disease Symposium at ICEM 2013, Sept. 5
Monthly Use in Congenital Cardiac Morphology, Oct 24

International Liaisons... AT YOUR CALL

Most of our team of international liaisons are dedicated to addressing the needs of referring physicians, embassies, and health ministries around the world. Our experts are available to respond to questions by phone or e-mail in fluent Arabic, English, or Spanish.

Phone: 305-349-2700 or 412-696-3000
Email: international@chp.edu

About PassportCare
Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC - 1242 Grant St, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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Learn about Children’s Telemedicine Program

Spotlight On George Mazariogos, MD, FACS

George Mazariogos, MD, FACS, chief of pediatric transplantation at Children’s Hospital is an international expert in pediatric transplants. He specializes in the treatment of pediatric patients who have hereditary, autoimmune, and other diseases that require transplantation. Dr. Mazariogos also cares for children who develop acute liver failure and who may require specialized liver support therapies until they receive or until donor organs are available. His research focuses on further refining immunosuppression therapy to improve transplant outcomes and quality of life. Dr. Mazariogos currently is leading clinical efforts to evaluate lowering or withdrawing immunosuppressant in long-term liver transplant recipients in order to maximize quality of life and minimize post-transplant complications.

Read his full biography.

Listen to Dr. Mazariogos talk about Children’s Pediatric Transplant Program.

Did You Know?

- Pittsburgh is home to about 1,000 technology firms, including research centers for Apple, Google, Disney, IBM, Intel, and Microsoft.
- Jonas Salk developed the polio vaccine at the University of Pittsburgh.
- Pittsburgh’s Carnegie Mellon University founded the world’s first school of computer science and robotics.

Learn more about Pittsburgh.

Children’s Hospital On Tour

In March, George Mazariogos, MD, FACS, was an invited speaker at the Surgical Society Annual Meeting in Taiwan. His presentation was titled “Pediatric Intestinal Transplantation: Multidisciplinary Care, Surgical Innovations, and Immunologic Challenges.” Dr. Mazariogos also visited dignitaries from Far Eastern Memorial Hospital in Taipei.

Dr. Mazariogos and Hana’s husband, Hana’s father, and other dignitaries from Children’s Hospital attended an invited speaker at the 9th World Congress.
at the World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery, held 11-17, in Cape Town, South Africa. Dr. Wissell gave two presentations including "The Aortic Translocation (Milas) Procedure: How I Do It" and "Aortic Translocation Procedure: Late Outcomes." The World Congress is a major international event for pediatric cardiology and cardiac surgery, highlighting four years of research and technological developments in basic sciences, clinical research, and therapeutic interventions.