FACT SHEET:
Childhood Cancers (Rehabilitation)

Why Choose Blythedale?

At Blythedale Children’s Hospital, a 24-hour staff of pediatric specialists support the medical and rehabilitative recovery of children with all types of cancer. Blythedale’s pediatricians, physiatrists, psychiatrists, and psychologists, as well as nurses, nutritionists, and physical, occupational, speech, and feeding therapists, comprise the interdisciplinary team essential to meet the complex needs of children who have been treated for cancer. In addition, each patient is assigned their own social worker who works closely with the family to address current and anticipated needs. A customized therapeutic regimen enables patients to regain their strength and function, while undergoing or recovering from surgery, chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy. We recognize the vital importance of an ongoing relationship with the patient’s referring medical team, and we participate in regular phone conferences to assess progress. Blythedale is the only specialty children’s hospital in New York State with the capability of providing the highest level of medical care and rehabilitation for children with complex medical needs. Blythedale is well-known for superior outcomes and the ability to help patients achieve their maximum potential and reach their treatment objectives. The goal is to help all of our young patients return to their families, schools and communities.

- State-of-the-art medical technology and monitoring equipment, combined with rigorous infection control protocols.
- Three positive pressure isolation rooms enable us to care for children with immunosuppression.
- Board-certified pediatricians 24/7 and nursing staff (100% R.N.) experienced in the administration of chemotherapy.
- Specialists in psychiatry and psychology to address emotional, developmental and adjustment needs and foster self-esteem.
- Registered dietitian provides case-specific, individualized nutritional plan for every patient upon admission, to maximize caloric intake and consider specific metabolic needs.
- 24/7 pulmonary and respiratory support (14 full-time pediatric respiratory therapists).
- Largest hospital-based pediatric therapy department in New York State, with 70 full-time pediatric therapists (physical, occupational, speech pathology and feeding).
- Full-time child life specialists provide emotional support, assistance with strategies for coping with pain and anxiety, and procedural preparation.
- Comprehensive discharge planning services.
- TPN (Total Parenteral Nutrition) management, weaning and training expertise, including feeding via naso-gastric, gastrostomy, and jejunostomy tubes.
- Adaptive equipment clinic on-site, with expertise in prosthetics.
- Six full-time pharmacists, including a Board Certified Clinical Pharmacist, able to compound therapeutic agents on-site.
- School programming at the Mt. Pleasant Blythedale UFSD, the Hospital’s on-site K-12 public school district, to facilitate continued education during recovery.
- Unique Day Hospital program for patients who need intensive rehabilitation and/or medical care, but are able to be at home at night.
Outcomes Data for Childhood Cancer Patients:

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<tr>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Total 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Blood Stream Infections</td>
<td>&lt;1.2 per 1000 Line Days</td>
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92% of those who completed a Press Ganey survey indicated they would recommend Blythedale to others.

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The Blythedale Team

Kathy Silverman, D.O.,
Coordinating Pediatrician for the Pediatric, Adolescent and TBI Units
Dr. Silverman is the Coordinating Physician of the Adolescent Unit at Blythedale Children’s Hospital. She is Board Certified in Pediatrics, and completed a residency in Pediatrics and a fellowship in Adolescent Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center.

Byron Fernandez, M.D.,
Coordinating Pediatrician
Dr. Fernandez is a Board Certified pediatrician on Blythedale Pediatric and Adolescent Unit. He completed pediatric residencies at Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and Driscoll Children’s Hospital. He received his medical degree from Francisco Marroquin University in Guatemala.

Siobahn O’Herron, M.D.,
Dr. O’Herron is a Board-Certified psychiatrist who completed both her residency and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry fellowship at Harvard Medical School. She received her medical degree from Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell University.

Jay E. Selman, M.D.,
Chief of Neurology
Dr. Selman has been the Chief of Neurology at Blythedale since 2002. He completed both his Pediatric and Neurology residencies at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, New York. He is Board Certified in Child Neurology, Pediatrics, Neuro developmental Disabilities, and Sleep Medicine.

Jill Wegener, M.S.N., R.N., C.C.R.N.,
Chief Nursing Officer
Ms. Wegener’s career spans nearly 30 years in pediatric nursing, caring for a broad range of patients in the pediatric intensive care unit, department of pediatrics, air/land transport and home care settings. She earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing from SUNY Institute of Technology and received her M.S.N. from Long Island University.

Kelsey Frawley, C.C.L.S.,
Senior Child Life Specialist
Ms. Frawley earned her master’s degree in Child Life from Bank Street College in 2009 and completed her undergrad work at SUNY Oneonta in Child and Family Studies.

On-Site Services and Support Areas Serving Patients with Cancer:
- Pediatric Medicine
- Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine
- Child Neurology
- Child Psychiatry and Psychology
- Pediatric Nursing
- Pediatric Nutrition
- Pain Management
- Child Life
- Pediatric Occupational Therapy
- Pediatric Physical Therapy
- Pediatric Respiratory Therapy
- Speech Pathology and Feeding Therapy

Additional Specialty Support Areas Available:
- Pediatric Pulmonology
- Pediatric Orthopaedics
- Pediatric Ophthalmology
- Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology
- Additional consultative specialists as needed

Clinical Support Services
- Audiology
- Social Work/Case Management
- Radiology
- Lab Services
- Assistive Technology
- On-site Equipment Clinic
- Patient Advocacy

Contacts:
For Referrals or Feedback on Referred Patients:
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