FACT SHEET:
Pre- and Post-Organ Transplant Services

Why Choose Blythedale?

At Blythedale Children’s Hospital, a 24-hour staff of pediatric specialists supports infants, children and adolescents prior to and following complicated transplant procedures (including heart, liver, kidney and multi-organ). These patients require the high level attention of a multidisciplinary team of pediatricians, physiatrists, nurses, nutritionists, and physical/occupational/speech/feeding therapists familiar with the problems inherent in transplantation. 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 meet their treatment objectives. The goal is to help all of our young patients return to their families and communities.

• State-of-the-art medical technology and monitoring equipment, combined with rigorous infection control protocols, enable Blythedale to accept higher acuity immunosuppressed patients in all age groups.
• Blythedale’s “positive pressure” isolation rooms allow us to care for children with compromised immune systems.
• Expertly trained staff are knowledgeable in pre- and post-transplant care, and recognize the vital role parents/caregivers play as our partners in care on the road home.
• Regular, collaborative and comprehensive communication with transplant teams from referring institutions, including physicians and transplant coordinators.
• Board Certified Pediatricians 24/7 and experienced nursing staff (100% R.N.).
• Six full-time registered pharmacists, including a Board Certified Clinical Pharmacist.
• TPN (Total Parenteral Nutrition) expertise.
• Excellence in caregiver education and comprehensive discharge planning services.
• On-site public school district (the only one of its kind in New York).

On-Site Services and Support Areas Serving Patients with Pre- and Post-Transplant Needs:
• Pediatric Medicine
• Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine
• Pediatric Pulmonology
• Child Psychiatry and Psychology
• Child Neurology
• Pediatric Nursing
• Pediatric Specialty-trained Pharmacists
• Pediatric Nutrition
• Pediatric Speech and Feeding Therapy
• Pediatric Physical Therapy
• Pediatric Occupational Therapy
• Pain Management

Additional Specialty Support Areas Available for Patients with Pre- and Post-Transplant Needs:
• Pediatric Ophthalmology
• Pediatric Otolaryngology
• Pediatric Infectious Disease
• Additional consultative specialists as needed

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The Blythedale Pre- and Post-Organ Transplant Program

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.

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.

Jessica Ritchie, L.C.S.W.
Ms. Ritchie received her M.S.W. from the NYU Silver School of Social Work and has been an inpatient social worker at Blythedale Children’s Hospital since 2007. She is a certified trainer in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention. Ms. Ritchie works with families to address their full spectrum of needs and serves as a liaison between families and hospital staff.

Clinical Support Services
• Audiology
• Social Work/Case Management
• Lab Services
• Radiology
• Child Life Services
• Adaptive Equipment Clinic
• Patient Advocacy

Outcomes Data for 
Pre- and Post-Transplant Patients:

92% of those who completed a Press Ganey survey indicated they would recommend Blythedale to others.

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<th>Blood Stream Infections</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Total 2013</th>
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<td>&lt;1.2 per 1000 Line Days</td>
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<td>0.5 per 1000 Line Days</td>
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Contacts:
For Referrals or Feedback on Referred Pre- and Post-Organ Transplant Patients:
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