



**MIAMI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**  
THE MARY ANN KNIGHT INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PEDIATRICS  
 FOUNDED AS VARIETY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

**We're here for the children**

# CHILDREN'S HEALTH TALK



*A Miami Children's Hospital Community Update, September 2005*

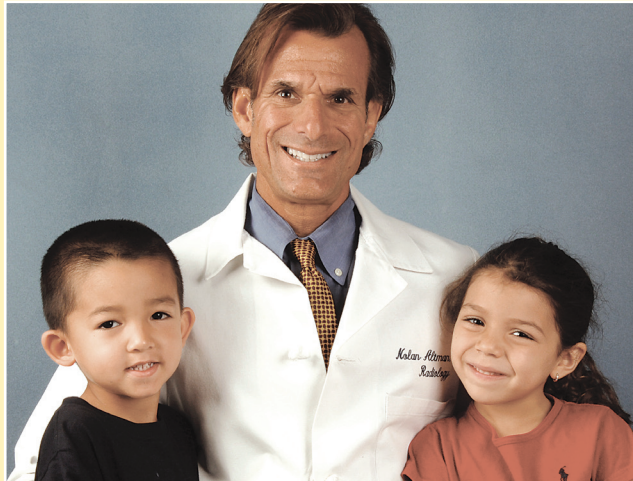
## MIAMI CHILDREN'S OFFERING THE BEST IN PEDIATRIC IMAGING

When it comes to diagnostic radiology services, children cannot be treated as "small adults." All imaging techniques—from the most basic radiology study to the most sophisticated CT scans—need to be carefully planned and calibrated for maximum effectiveness and patient safety.

"We have been imaging children since 1950, constantly providing state-of-the-art equipment and a staff that is trained and dedicated to the care of infants and children," said Nolan R. Altman, MD, Chief of Radiology.

Last year, the department's dedicated staff of 12 pediatric radiologists performed 130,000 exams, including evening, night and weekend emergencies. That includes more than 3,000 sedation procedures—one of the highest volumes in the Southeastern U.S. In addition, all the radiologists who read results have advanced training in pediatric radiology.

What does this mean for parents? Experienced technical staff ensure maximum imaging results with minimum exposure to radiation and a care setting where the team understands the needs of children and offer special skills in making the experience as comfortable as possible for each child.



*Dr. Nolan R. Altman, MD, Chief of Radiology, with Matthew and Monique.*

### MRI Leadership

Miami Children's is the leading provider of pediatric MRI services in South Florida with a state-of-the-art center that opened in 2002 with expanded sedation and recovery areas and a separate entrance for easy outpatient access. The center's services include MRI fluoroscopy for contrast enhanced studies, MR-angiograms, functional MRI (fMRI) neuro-imaging, various types of cardiac imaging, head-and-spine imaging and spectroscopy studies of brain tissue.

Responding to the growing needs of pediatric imaging services in Broward County, Miami Children's expanded its MRI service to the Miami Children's Dan Marino Center in Weston, becoming Broward's first MRI service exclusively for children.

Scans are read by the MCH team via a high-speed network connection.

### Investing in the Future

The Division of Radiology continuously acquires new diagnostic equipment and communication systems. Coming soon is a picture archiving and communication system (PACS) that will allow any clinician with the appropriate log-on credentials to see patient images on his or her computer.

"This will open up the Radiology Department and be a big advance in patient care," said Dr. Altman, who has over 20 years of exclusive pediatric experience, with expertise in neuroradiology and angiography.

Also in the advanced planning stage is a voice recognition system that will capture and generate interpretive reports as they are dictated by radiologists. Another major advancement in Radiology is a positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET-CT) machine that will integrate CT and nuclear images. This will greatly enhance oncologic imaging and offers potential neuroimaging, cardiac and infectious disease applications. "We will be the first free-standing children's hospital in Florida to have this equipment," said Dr. Altman.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, please call 305-662-8293.

*Miami Children's is the leading provider of pediatric MRI services in South Florida.*

## A REGIONAL LEADER IN PEDIATRIC EDUCATION

At Miami Children's Hospital, the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists is already hard at work. The hospital is proud to be the largest pediatric teaching hospital in the Southeastern United States, offering training for 66 pediatric residents and 17 subspecialty fellows annually.

"Medical education is one of our most central missions," said Christian C. Patrick, MD, PhD, Chief Medical Officer/Senior Vice President for Medical and Academic Affairs. "Through this leadership we ensure that quality physicians are available to serve the children of tomorrow."



Medical students from all over the United States and around the world apply each year to the hospital's three-year primary care pediatric residency training program, which is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education.

The program—now in its 42nd year—offers experience in all facets of pediatric care from complex intensive care to the office practice of general pediatrics. Pediatric residents receive clinical training and participate in a well-organized educational program of seminars and teaching conferences that provide a balanced and complete education.

In addition, the hospital offers ACGME-approved fellowship programs in adolescent medicine, craniofacial surgery, pediatric emergency medicine, pediatric critical care, pediatric radiology and clinical neurophysiology.

In 2004, the hospital added a new dimension to its teaching program, a Pediatric Simulation Laboratory. This lab features a high-tech, child-sized mannequin programmed for medical simulation that has the capability to mirror the parameters and medical responses of a 7-year-old patient. The simulator provides opportunities for residents, nurses, healthcare students and practitioners to be tested in mandatory competencies, practice different techniques and work with a team under emergent scenarios to test their skills.

"The simulation lab is one more example of Miami Children's Hospital's commitment to providing the latest advancements to ensure that medical students receive the highest quality education possible," said Dr. Patrick.

*For a referral to a Miami Children's Hospital physician, please call 888-MCH-DOCS (624-3627).*

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION CALENDAR

### Daddy Boot Camp

**Saturday, September 17, 10 am to 1 pm**

Daddy Boot Camp is a creative and interactive class for fathers and soon to be fathers. The facilitators will assist new dads down the unfamiliar path in life's journey called fatherhood. The goal is to help new fathers learn the value and importance of interacting with their babies in ways that will ensure an attached and bonded relationship. Highlights of this program include diaper changing, bathing, appropriate dress, crying, how to recognize when a baby is sick, feeding, developmental stages and child development activities. For more information, please call 305-662-8282.

### CPR Class

**Thursday, September 29, 6 pm to 8 pm**

This course in Pediatric CPR teaches parents, grandparents and caregivers how to administer CPR to infants and children. Please call 305-662-8282 for further information.

### Child Passenger Safety

Child safety is our priority. Child passenger safety technicians will check your child's car seat for defects, recalls, installation and fit. For more information, please call the Division of Preventive Medicine at 305-663-6800.

### Emergent Language Group for Children with Autism

**Thursdays, 4 pm to 4:45 pm**

Music therapy is used to promote language development in children with autism. For more information, call 305-666-6511 ext. 2434.

### Social Skills Group for Adolescents with Autism

**Wednesdays, 4 pm to 4:45 pm**

Music therapy is used to enhance social skills among teens with autism. For more information, call 305-666-6511 ext. 2434.

## THE BEST CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL INSIDE AND OUT.



Miami Children's Hospital has a new look, brighter, more colorful, and more child-friendly. We're providing true family-centered care. We're expanding our ambulatory care services, community education program and are building the largest research program in South Florida, all to help us continue to be the best. It's why we've received Magnet Designation for nursing care excellence and high scores for customer service.



We're South Florida's only licensed specialty hospital *exclusively* for children. And we have an understanding of children that no other hospital can offer. No one knows children like Miami Children's.



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