Specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of complex respiratory conditions and disorders, the pediatric Pulmonology practice at Valley Children’s provides 24/7 service in the inpatient, outpatient and emergency care settings.

We work closely with other Hospital services such as the neonatal intensive care unit, but almost 90 percent of our patients are treated on an outpatient basis. Our pulmonology team participates in clinical research involving conditions including cystic fibrosis (CF). We have about 160 CF patients participating in research projects. We are a multidisciplinary California Children’s Services (CCS) Cystic Fibrosis Center.

**Access Center**
24/7 access for referring physicians
(866) 353-KIDS (5437)

**Outpatient Referral**
Referral forms online at valleychildrens.org/refer
FAX: (559) 353-8888

**Pulmonolgy Office Numbers**
Main: (559) 353-5550
FAX: (559) 353-5587
Physician Line: (559) 353-5566

**Physician Liason**
(559) 353-7229

**Medical Staff**

Reddivalam Sudhakar, MD
Medical Director

John Moua, MD
Lauro Roberto, MD
Mary Anne Tablizo, MD
Pediatric pulmonologists are medical doctors who have had at least four years of medical school, three years of residency training in pediatrics, at least three more years of fellowship training in pediatric pulmonology, and certification from the American Board of Pediatrics in both pediatrics and the subspeciality of pediatric pulmonology.

Patients with the following conditions should be referred to a pediatric pulmonologist:

- Chronic cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Recurring pneumonia (infection of the lungs)
- Cystic fibrosis (a genetic disease with pulmonary and nutritional symptoms)
- Apnea (when a child’s breathing stops for a prolonged time)
- Chronic lung disease in premature infants
- Noisy breathing
# Pediatric Pulmonology Consultant Reference Guide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Pre-referral Work-up</th>
<th>When to Refer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asthma, Recurrent Cough, or Wheeze</strong></td>
<td>- Spirometry (pulmonary function testing) in patients over 5 years old &lt;br&gt;- Allergy testing &lt;br&gt;- CXR, sinus films &lt;br&gt;- Immunology &lt;br&gt;- Bronchoscopy, if needed</td>
<td>- Has been hospitalized, intubated/ICU admission, frequent Emergency Department visits &lt;br&gt;- Frequent need for oral steroid bursts &lt;br&gt;- Less than 2 years old &lt;br&gt;- Unresponsive to usual therapy with increasing medication use &lt;br&gt;- Complicating conditions, such as rhinitis, sinusitis, GE-reflux, pneumonia &lt;br&gt;- Abnormal spirometry or needs frequent monitoring with spirometry &lt;br&gt;- History of chronic lung disease, prematurity, S/P RSV</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia, Chronic Lung Disease</strong></td>
<td>- Serum electrolytes &lt;br&gt;- Capillary blood gas &lt;br&gt;- Chest radiograph</td>
<td>- Unstable respiratory status or is slow to improve &lt;br&gt;- Supplemental oxygen requirement &lt;br&gt;- Difficulty growing or feeding problems/G-tube feedings &lt;br&gt;- Rehospitalization after discharge &lt;br&gt;- Inability to wean medications and/or oxygen</td>
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<td><strong>Cystic Fibrosis</strong></td>
<td>- Repeat sweat chloride test, if indicated &lt;br&gt;- DNA analysis if not already done &lt;br&gt;- Other blood work (vitamin levels) &lt;br&gt;- Sputum culture/throat culture</td>
<td>- Sweat chloride is positive &lt;br&gt;- Positive newborn screening</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sleep Disorders</strong></td>
<td>- Polysomnogram &lt;br&gt;- ENT evaluation, if indicated &lt;br&gt;- Echocardiogram (to assess for pulmonary hypertension) &lt;br&gt;- Capillary blood gas, serum electrolytes &lt;br&gt;- Lateral neck</td>
<td>- Any symptoms of sleep difficulties: Sleep disorder breathing, snoring, daytime somnolence, growth delay, and enuresis</td>
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</table>
Valley Children’s contracts with the following health plans for hospital and physician services.*

If you have questions, please call us at (559) 353-7238 to speak with a contracting representative.

**Insurance Plans**

Aetna EPO / HMO / PPO
AllCare IPA
Bakersfield Family Medical Center / Heritage Physician Network
Blue Cross HMO / Prudent Buyer PPO / Healthy Families EPO
Blue Cross Medi-Cal / Healthy Families HMO
Blue Shield HMO / PPO / Healthy Families
Capp Care (Beachstreet)
Catholic Healthcare West-Bakersfield
CCS – California Children’s Services
Central California Alliance for Health
Central Valley Medical Group CVMG
Choice Care
Cigna / Greatwest
Delano Regional Medical Group
EHS IPA (Blue Cross Managed Medi-Cal Patients / Healthy Families)
Emmanuel Employee Benefit Plan
First Health / CCN
Foundation HealthCare Administrators / California Foundation for Medical Care
GemCare IPA / Managed Care Systems
Health Net HMO / PPO / Healthy Families / Healthy Kids
Health Net Medi-Cal / CalViva
Health Plan San Joaquin Medi-Cal / Healthy Families
Hill Physician Medical Group
Interplan
Kaiser HMO / Healthy Families / Medi-Cal
Kern Health Systems Medi-Cal / Healthy Families
Key / Mosaic Medical Group IPA
LaSalle IPA (Blue Cross Managed Medi-Cal)
Medicare
MediCal – California State
MedCore Medical Group
Multiplan / PHCS
Sante IPA
Sutter Gould Medical Foundation
Sutter Hospital System (Modesto Memorial, Memorial Los Banos, Sutter Tracy)
TriWest (Formally TRICARE / CHAMPUS)
United HealthCare / PacifiCare
Universal Care

*Plans may be subject to change.