

## Gastroenterology

The Gastroenterology practice at Valley Children's specializes in the diagnosis and management of infants, children, and adolescents with gastrointestinal and nutrition disorders. The practice treats many conditions such as unspecified abdominal pain, esophageal reflux, gastritis, gastrointestinal bleeding, esophagitis and irritable bowel syndrome.

We offer outpatient gastroenterology services across the region to provide children and families access to care close to home. Our physicians practice full-time at Valley Children's pediatric subspecialty centers. We also provide pediatric gastroenterology services in Modesto, Merced, the Central Coast and Bakersfield.

#### **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

#### Gastoenterology Office Numbers

Main: (559) 353-5745 FAX: (559) 353-5760

#### Physician Liaison

(559) 353-7229

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# Pediatric Gastroenterology Consultant Reference Guide

Condition	Pre-referral Work-up	When to Refer
Chronic Abdominal Pain	<ul> <li>History and physical</li> <li>Labs: CBC, ESR, CRP, UA, complete metabolic panel, lipase, stool guiac</li> <li>Radiographic studies: supine and upright plain abdominal films</li> </ul>	Children with periumbilical abdominal pain without vomiting
Chronic Non-Bloody Diarrhea	<ul> <li>History and physical</li> <li>Labs: stool studies - culture, O&amp;P, clostridium difficile toxin, stool WBCs, stool guiac, stool for fat, CBC, ESR</li> <li>If there is failure to thrive consider sweat test</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Persistent diarrhea over two weeks</li> <li>Chronic otitis media</li> <li>Chronic hoarseness</li> </ul>
Gastroesophageal Reflux	<ul> <li>History and physical</li> <li>Growth charts</li> <li>Labs: CBC, stool guiac</li> <li>Radiographic studies: ultrasound if considering pyloric stenosis, upper Gl series</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Persistent spitting up in infants with poor weight gain, or symptoms consistent with esophagitis (persistent crying or hematemasis)</li> <li>Recurrent pneumonia</li> <li>Possible aspiration pneumonia</li> <li>Intractable asthma unresponsive to usual medications</li> <li>Asthmatic attacks that reoccur predominantly at night time</li> </ul>
Failure to Thrive	<ul> <li>History and physical</li> <li>Growth charts</li> <li>Labs: Complete CBC, sedimenation rate, prealbumin, complete metabolic panel, UA</li> <li>Dietary evaluation performed prior to referral</li> <li>Social evaluation (parental divorce/separation, parental custody, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Patients with slow weight gain falling under the 5th percentile or dropping off age-appropriate growth curves</li> <li>Parental heights and weights as adults at age 18</li> </ul>
Bloody Stool	<ul> <li>History and physical</li> <li>Labs: CBC, ESR, stool culture, O&amp;P, stool for clostridium difficile toxin, stool WBCs, complete metabolic panel</li> </ul>	Persistent blood in stools with or without diarrhea

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