CONGENITAL HYPERINSULINISM CENTER

Adriana, 2
CHOP Hyperinsulinism Patient

Congenital hyperinsulinism (HI) — a disorder that causes severe, persistent hypoglycemia in neonates and infants — is rare, with one occurrence in 50,000 live births. Most children's hospitals encounter only one or two cases a year, and many physicians may never see a single case. Fast diagnosis and treatment of HI are imperative. Children with HI are at risk for death, brain damage, seizures, mental retardation, blindness and cerebral palsy. But for babies who have HI, there is hope at the Congenital Hyperinsulinism Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).

WHO WE ARE

Since October 1998, our HI Center has evaluated and treated more than 1,300 patients, making it the largest in the world. We see more than 80 new cases a year, with about half being medically unresponsive and requiring surgery. Our surgeons have performed more than 525 pancreatectomies. Patients have come to CHOP from 48 states and 15 foreign countries. We have a dedicated International Patient Services team and extensive interpretation services to assist families.

WHAT WE DO

HI can be focal or diffuse, and conventional preoperative radiological studies can't tell the difference. Our center performs 18F-DOPA PET scanning under an FDA IND research protocol (for appropriate cases) that helps surgeons pinpoint and excise focal lesions, reducing diabetes risk and potentially curing the disease. We have performed more than 392 18F-DOPA PET scans, by far the most in the world. Our cure rate for focal HI is 97%. Learn more by viewing our video at **chop.edu/hyperinsulinism.**

OUR TEAM

Our multidisciplinary team includes pediatric endocrinologists, surgeons, radiologists, pathologists, anesthesiologists, nurses, social workers, researchers, speech and feeding therapists, and dietitians. Should patients need consultations with other specialists, CHOP has world-renowned experts in a wide range of subspecialties, and we have one of the top-ranked neonatal intensive care units in the United States.

OUR RESEARCH

CHOP physician-scientists led research that demonstrated that HI is a genetic condition, work that has led to the discovery of 10 genes associated with HI. Our researchers also relentlessly pursue new treatment protocols and medication therapy to better manage HI.

PARTNER WITH US
To refer a patient or request a second opinion:
267-426-6298
CHOPUSA@email.chop.edu

LEARN MORE
chop.edu/hyperinsulinism

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®
Congenital Hyperinsulinism Center