

COMPREHENSIVE VASCULAR ANOMALIES PROGRAM

Patients with vascular anomalies have conditions of the veins, arteries and the lymphatic system that can be classified as tumors (benign and malignant) and vascular malformations (congenital anomalies of the vasculature). These conditions, which can range in complexity, can cause pronounced visible deformities and disfigurement, impede critical organ functions such as swallowing or breathing, or cause severe pain interfering with one's quality of life. The Comprehensive Vascular Anomalies Program (CVAP) at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) includes state-of-the-art genomics and personalized research strategies to determine the causes of these conditions and identify targeted therapies. These innovative options are based on standards of excellent interdisciplinary clinical care.

A HISTORY OF INNOVATIVE CARE

CHOP has been treating patients with vascular anomalies for more than 25 years. Plastic surgeons have developed expertise in management of vascular anomalies in collaboration with specially trained pediatric interventional radiologists, who treat these conditions with advanced, minimally invasive procedures using imaging tools. Collaboration with specialists from hematology/oncology and dermatology was initiated early to provide patients with the best possible care.

AN EMERGING NEED

As our understanding of vascular anomalies has increased, our treatment approach has evolved. It has become clear that patients with more complex forms of vascular anomalies benefit from collaboration among various specialists. Depending on the severity of their condition, CVAP patients may see specialists from:

- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Fetal Surgery
- General Surgery
- Genetics
- Hematology
- Interventional Radiology
- Lymphedema Therapy
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedics
- Otolaryngology
- Pathology
- Physical and Occupational Therapy
- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
- Psychology
- Pulmonology
- Radiology
- Social Work



As part of our interdisciplinary approach to care, CVAP also provides psychosocial and emotional support services to patients and their families.

continued >

PROMISING TREATMENT

For children and adults whose condition includes lymphatic leaks and lymphatic flow disorders, we work closely with the Jill and Mark Fishman Center for Lymphatic Disorders. The center has developed minimally invasive, state-of-the-art procedures to diagnose and treat these conditions.

Recently, innovative research collaboration between the Center for Applied Genomics and the Jill and Mark Fishman Center for Lymphatic Disorders has resulted in a groundbreaking new therapy for patients with a severe lymphatic conduction disorder. This finding has propelled a significant expansion of CHOP's expertise and our international reach in the care of those with complex vascular anomalies. In addition, collaboration with the Division of Oncology has put CVAP at the forefront in developing clinical trials for vascular anomalies.

RESEARCH STUDIES AND CLINICAL TRIALS

CVAP was designed and implemented in response to the need for a well-coordinated multidisciplinary clinic and research program. This allows providers to collaborate more effectively in serving patients and their families. The research component revolves around findings over the last five years that certain genetic mutations are the root cause of many vascular anomalies, some of which are responsive to advanced therapies that are not yet clinically indicated treatments for these conditions. These discoveries have led to the advancement of phenotype/genotype correlation of disease and new treatment options. Conducting clinical trials to help find promising treatments for patients with vascular anomalies will hopefully lead to U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of these much-needed treatments. As a result, in the future countless more patients will benefit from this life-saving precision medicine approach. CHOP's excellent clinical, translational and basic science research is focused on making the next innovative discoveries.

PARTNER WITH US

To refer a patient or request a second opinion:

267-426-6298

CHOPUSA@email.chop.edu

LEARN MORE

chop.edu/CVAP