Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital

 Spina Bifida Clinic

New and exciting things are happening here at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital! We are very excited to announce that we have started a Multidisciplinary Spina Bifida Clinic.

As you know, children with Spina Bifida often need multiple specialists involved in their care. Our goal is to gather our specialties as a team, in a place where we can work together to serve our spina bifida patient population. *Below is the list of specialists involved in our clinic, as well as which provider represents each department*:

* **Neurosurgery**
	+ Dr. Casey Madura
	+ Dr. M. Michael Bercu
* **Neurodevelopment**
	+ Dr. Mario Petersen
* **Urology**
	+ Dr. Theodore Barber
* **Orthopedics**
	+ Dr. Philip Nowicki
* **Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy**
	+ Erin Swartz, PT
	+ Zoey Rose, OT
	+ Alyssa Scholten, SLP
* **Pediatric Orthotic Specialists**
	+ Andy Rolewicz, CO
	+ Kevin Soules, CO
* **Nursing**
	+ Tori Scott, RN, Clinic Coordinator
* **Social Work**
* **Dietary/Nutrition**

In addition to seeing these specialists, we are also able to coordinate any imaging that may be needed. This includes Renal Ultrasounds, Orthopedic X-rays, MRIs, and so on.

*You are not required to see every specialist involved in spina bifida clinic*. The purpose of the clinic is for patients to see their following specialists on one day, and to have other specialists available if needed. Providers will be able to work and communicate in a team approach to determine the best care plan for our patients, as well as to make sure their needs are being met.

*You do not need to change providers that are already involved in the care of your child*. While your regular provider may not be the one representing their department in Spina Bifida Clinic, please be assured that the provider present in Spina Bifida Clinic is a close partner of your regular provider. Communication is important, and our providers discuss mutual patients prior to their visits to ensure the care plan remains the same and our patients are getting the care they require. Additionally, any follow-up care needed outside of Spina Bifida Clinic will take place with your normal provider.

*Spina Bifida Clinic is currently held on the first Friday of every month*. The clinic is growing quickly, and we are already seeing an increased demand for additional clinic days. We do anticipate this becoming a bi-weekly clinic in the near future.

Spina Bifida Clinic can be a long clinic for our patients and their families. Our patients are typically here an average of three to four hours, depending on how many specialists they see and what imaging they require. With that in mind, our goal is to get our patients seen, taken care of, and ready to go home as efficiently as possible. Tori Scott, our Spina Bifida Clinical Nurse Coordinator, is present in clinic and works hard to make this happen.

With the goal of providing individualized care, we plan to provide the evaluations needed for your child. Many of the providers listed above have been involved in multidisciplinary Spina Bifida Clinics at their previous hospitals. The knowledge and expertise they bring to our clinic plays a large role in the early success we have had in our Spina Bifida Clinic thus far.

We would love to further discuss our Spina Bifida Clinic here at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital with you! For more information please contact Tori Scott, our Spina Bifida Clinical Nurse Coordinator, by either phone or email. Her information is listed below:

*Tori Scott, RN*

*Spina Bifida Clinical Nurse Coordinator*

*Ph: 616-267-1389*

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We Look Forward to Seeing You!