

# Pulmonology

Specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of complex respiratory conditions and disorders, the Pulmonology Practice at Children's Hospital Central California provides 24/7 service in the inpatient, outpatient and emergency care settings. We work closely with services like the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, but almost 90 percent of our patients are treated on an outpatient basis. The team participates in clinical research involving conditions like Cystic Fibrosis (CF) and asthma. We currently have 105 CF patients participating in research projects. We are a multidisciplinary California Children's Services (CCS) Cystic Fibrosis Center.

## Children's Access Center

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

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## Outpatient Referral

Referral forms online at: [www.childrenscentralcal.org/services/medicaloffice/refer](http://www.childrenscentralcal.org/services/medicaloffice/refer)  
FAX: (559) 353-8888

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## Pulmonology Office Numbers

Main Number: (559) 353-5550  
FAX: (559) 353-5587  
Physician Line: (559) 353-5566

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Physician Liaison: (559) 353-7229

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## Medical Staff:

Lauro Roberto, MD  
Reddivalam Sudhakar, MD  
Mary Anne Tablizo, MD

# Pediatric Pulmonology Consultant Reference Guide

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 subspecialty 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

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Condition	Pre-referral Workup	When to Refer
<p>Asthma, Recurrent Cough, or Wheeze</p> <p>Referring provider should send: clinical history-respiratory history since birth, all lab results pertaining to the problem, and chest radiographs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Spirometry (pulmonary function testing) in patients over 5 years old</li> <li>-Allergy testing</li> <li>-CXR, sinus films</li> <li>-Immunology</li> <li>-Bronchoscopy, if needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Has been hospitalized, intubated/ICU admission, frequent Emergency Department visits</li> <li>-Frequent need for oral steroid bursts</li> <li>-Less than 2 years old</li> <li>-Unresponsive to usual therapy with increasing medication use</li> <li>-Complicating conditions, such as rhinitis, sinusitis, GE-reflux, pneumonia</li> <li>-Abnormal spirometry or needs frequent monitoring with spirometry</li> <li>-History of chronic lung disease, prematurity, S/P RSV</li> </ul>
<p>Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia, Chronic Lung Disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Serum electrolytes</li> <li>-Capillary blood gas</li> <li>-Chest radiograph</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Unstable respiratory status or is slow to improve</li> <li>-Supplemental oxygen requirement</li> <li>-Difficulty growing or feeding problems/G-tube feedings</li> <li>-Rehospitalization after discharge</li> <li>-Inability to wean medications and/or oxygen</li> </ul>
<p>Cystic Fibrosis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Repeat sweat chloride test, if indicated</li> <li>-DNA analysis if not already done</li> <li>-Other blood work (vitamin levels)</li> <li>-Sputum culture/throat culture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Sweat chloride is positive</li> <li>-Positive newborn screening</li> </ul>
<p>Sleep Disorders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Polysomnogram</li> <li>-ENT evaluation, if indicated</li> <li>-Echocardiogram (to assess for pulmonary hypertension)</li> <li>-Capillary blood gas, serum electrolytes</li> <li>-Lateral neck</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Any symptoms of sleep difficulties: Sleep disorder breathing, snoring, daytime somnolence, growth delay, and enuresis</li> </ul>

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## 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

\* Contracted Status subject to change. If you have questions or to verify coverage please call 559.353.8800/888.824.5439