

VENTILATOR INTEGRATION PROGRAM



Hasbro Children's Hospital

The Pediatric Division of Rhode Island Hospital

A Lifespan Partner

All for one.

cardiology • oncology • pulmonology • many more



The Ventilator Integration Program
George Building, First Floor
Hasbro Children's Hospital
593 Eddy Street, Providence, Rhode Island
HasbroChildrensHospital.org



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“We feel our special child is getting extra special treatment in the VIP clinic. It is a great place, filled with professionals that help us with all the needs of our child. We no longer have to go to several doctors’ offices to be seen—all of our care is under one roof.”

Welcome to Hasbro Children’s Hospital’s Ventilator Integration Program. We provide medical care for infants, children and young adults with chronic respiratory problems who are dependent on medical technology. We work together with primary care physicians throughout the area to provide care fitted to each child’s needs.

The Ventilator Integration Program (VIP) uses the patient and family centered care model. We involve and educate patients and families in all aspects of care, including the technology used by the patient.

Most of our patients require a home ventilator to help them breathe due to problems associated with lung disease, weak breathing muscles or a neurological disorder. The majority of these children also have other medical needs—for example, care for a tracheotomy tube, care for a feeding tube, or maintaining good nutrition—that require regular communication with other

pediatric specialists. In addition to providing medical care, our program coordinates additional specialized care for our patients.



THE VIP TEAM

At Hasbro Children’s Hospital, we are proud to have some of the best pediatric medical professionals in the country, who come together as a team on behalf of each child. Our culture facilitates open communication and collaboration among this team of specialists that places each child at the center of our circle of care.

Our Patient’s Family: Each child’s family is an important part of the VIP team, bringing important knowledge and information about their child’s care needs.

Pediatric Pulmonologist: The pediatric pulmonologist provides care for infants and children with lung diseases, including those who need home ventilation. The pulmonologist works closely with a respiratory therapist to discuss and choose the type of ventilator settings and appropriate medications to help with the child’s breathing.

Pediatrician: The pediatrician is experienced in the care of children with chronic and complex health conditions. The pediatrician provides recommendations for comprehensive care in





collaboration with the child's primary care provider and other medical specialists. This includes assessments of nutrition, growth, development, behavior and health care problems.

Nurse Practitioner: The nurse practitioner coordinates clinic visits and the many areas of care for children who are dependent on medical technology. The nurse practitioner communicates with the child's family, home care agencies and school, and is available to discuss concerns about the child's symptoms or day-to-day technology issues at home.

Respiratory Therapist: The respiratory therapist focuses on care of the child's airway and safe operation of the equipment. Experienced in pediatric respiratory care, the therapist reviews and teaches the family about tracheostomy tube care, suctioning, the settings and alarms on the ventilator or other respiratory machine, and giving inhaled medications. The therapist works with parents and caregivers so they understand and are comfortable managing their child's respiratory care plan and maintaining his or her lung health.

Speech Language Pathologist: The speech language pathologist provides consultation for children and families in the areas of communication, feeding and swallowing. For a child with a tracheostomy tube, determining a communication plan is challenging and may require the use of a speaking valve or a speech-generating device. The speech language pathologist works with the family to develop a care plan for communication, feeding and/or swallowing that is specific to their child's needs.

Parent Consultant: Parent consultants are parents or family members of children with special health care needs. They have personal experience and are knowledgeable about the health care system and community services. They provide support and educate families about the resources available, and help connect them with services for their child within their community.

VIP CLINIC VISITS

Clinic visits for the VIP take place at Hasbro Children's Hospital. The area is designed to be comfortable, welcoming and family friendly. Clinic visits are often coordinated with appointments with other specialists at Hasbro Children's Hospital. Clinic staff are also available to see patients at home and during hospitalization.





BEFORE YOUR CLINIC VISIT

Bringing a child to a medical visit requires organization and planning. Here are some hints to help you be prepared:

- Bring a complete list of your child's medications. Write down the name(s) of the medicine(s), as well as the dosage and times each is given. Also have available your pharmacy name, address and phone number to help speed up the medication refill process.
- Bring the medical equipment your child uses.
- Write down any questions you may have.
- Bring paperwork that needs to be filled out for school, insurance or home care.
- Consider bringing another adult to support you during the visit.

Planning ahead and being organized will help you get the most out of your visits to the clinic.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information or to make an appointment, call 401-444-8059. Our fax number is 401-444-2168.

DIRECTIONS

From North of Providence: Traveling south on I-95, take exit 19 and bear right onto Eddy Street. Turn left onto Dudley Street and follow the signs to Rhode Island Hospital.

From South of Providence: Traveling north on I-95, take exit 18 for Thurbers Avenue. Stay left at the fork and continue straight onto Thurbers Avenue. Turn right onto Eddy Street and then left onto Dudley Street. Follow the signs to Rhode Island Hospital.

Convenient parking is available in any of Rhode Island Hospital's public parking lots.

