

Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Center



At the Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Center at Cincinnati Children's, we provide comprehensive care for bone and limb deformities in children from infancy to young adulthood. Our care team has experience in the most advanced treatments for conditions and injuries both common and rare.

CONTACT US

For general information or referrals:

Phone: **513-803-ORTHO**

Email: ortho@cchmc.org

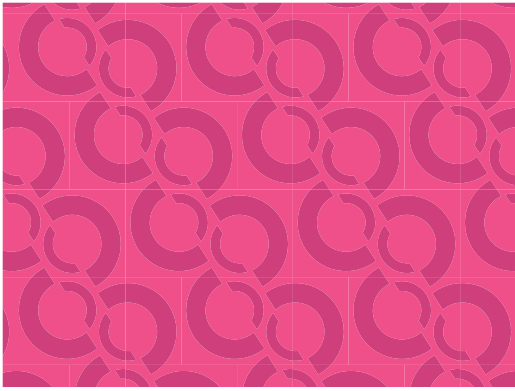
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HOW WE'RE DIFFERENT

- With more than **40 years of combined experience**, our team has evaluated and treated children of all ages who have limb deformities and deficiencies, including differences in arm or leg length.
- Our **multidisciplinary team** includes experts in orthopaedic surgery, physical therapy, occupational therapy, rehabilitation, and prosthetics and orthotics. We work closely to evaluate and address each child's individual growth and functional concerns. Our goal is to help our patients live as fully and actively as possible.
- We care for children from all over the United States and nearly 30 countries. Our doctors have established an **international reputation** for expertise in limb lengthening and reconstruction.
- We are able to **partner with other specialists** within Orthopaedics and throughout Cincinnati Children's as needed, to provide comprehensive care for the whole child. This includes teaming with the Hip Preservation Program when a limb deformity affects the hip.
- We develop **individualized care plans** that include treatment options and a therapy program specific to each child to optimize the function of the arm or leg.
- Our on-site **Motion Analysis Lab**, staffed by a multidisciplinary team that includes specialists in biomedical engineering, physical therapy and occupational therapy, uses state-of-the-art technology to identify the complex causes of mobility challenges.
- We hold a **collaborative limb conference** to discuss complex cases with all members of the care team. This ensures input from a variety of perspectives in order to offer the patient the best possible outcome.
- Our doctors **research new and improved ways** to treat and manage bone and limb deformities, publishing and presenting work nationally and internationally. We have developed innovative, less invasive techniques using cutting-edge technology. We also provide training to other pediatricians, family practitioners and orthopaedic surgeons in how to evaluate and treat limb deficiencies and deformities.



Cincinnati Children's is ranked #3 in Orthopaedics and third among all Honor Roll hospitals in the 2020–21 *U.S. News & World Report* listing of Best Children's Hospitals.



TREATMENT TEAM

Wendy Ramalingam, MD
Co-Director, Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Center

James McCarthy, MD
Co-Director, Limb Lengthening and Reconstruction Center

Jaime Denning, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon

Viral Jain, MD
Orthopaedic Surgeon

Charles Mehlman, DO, MPH
Orthopaedic Surgeon

We regularly provide second opinions that can reassure patients they are receiving the best possible care elsewhere, or offer insights about other treatment options available at Cincinnati Children's.

CONDITIONS TREATED

We use the most advanced specialty care, technology and therapies available to provide a complete range of treatments for our patients. Conditions we treat include:

Congenital

- Congenital shortening of an extremity
- Streeter's dysplasia (amniotic constriction bands/amniotic band syndrome)
- Below elbow transverse limb deficiency
- Tibial hemimelia
- Fibular hemimelia
- Proximal femoral focal deficiency (short femur)

After Trauma/Injury

- Lawnmower injuries
- Traumatic amputations
- Growth arrests or disturbances of an extremity due to injury or infection involving the growth plate

Developmental

- Blount's disease (severe bow-legs)
- Arthritic conditions resulting in limb length inequality, deformity or joint stiffness
- Congenital genu valgum (pathologic knock-knees)
- Pseudarthrosis of the tibia

Oncologic

- Malignancy or tumorous conditions affecting growth and development of an extremity including leg length inequality and limb deformities associated with vascular malformations and neurofibromatosis

TREATMENTS

We use a variety of techniques, both surgical and non-surgical, to correct limb problems. Our experts offer a full spectrum of treatment techniques for limb lengthening and reconstruction, including:

- Self-lengthening rods
- Guided growth techniques
- Complex external fixation
- Image guided surgery
- Minimally invasive techniques
- Prosthetic conversion

For urgent issues or to speak with the specialist on call 24/7, call Physician Priority Link (PPL) at 1-888-987-7997.