

What is a Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist?

If your child or teen has a blood disease or cancer, a *Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist* has the experience and qualifications to evaluate and treat your child or teen. The unique nature of care of children or teens with blood diseases and cancer is learned from advanced training and experience in practice. Pediatric hematologists/oncologists treat children and teens from birth through young adulthood.

What kind of training do pediatric hematologists/oncologists have?

Pediatric hematologists/oncologists are medical doctors who have had

- At least 4 years of medical school
- Three years of residency training in pediatrics
- At least 3 additional years of fellowship training in pediatric hematology/oncology
- Certification from the American Board of Pediatrics

What types of treatments do pediatric hematologists/oncologists provide?

Pediatric hematologists/oncologists diagnose, treat, and manage children and teens with the following:

- Cancers including leukemias, lymphomas, brain tumors, bone tumors, and solid tumors
- Diseases of blood cells including disorders of white cells, red cells, and platelets
- Bleeding disorders

Where can I find a pediatric hematologist/oncologist?

Pediatric hematologists/oncologists practice in a variety of settings including children's hospitals, university medical centers, and large community hospitals.

Pediatric hematologists/oncologists the best care for children and teens

Children and teens are not just small adults. Their bodies are growing and have unique medical needs. They usually express their concerns differently than adults do. They cannot always answer medical questions, and are not always able to be patient and cooperative. Pediatric hematologists/oncologists know how to examine and treat young children and teens in a way that makes them relaxed and cooperative. Most pediatric hematologists/oncologists' offices are arranged and decorated with children and teens in mind.

If your pediatrician suggests that your child or teen see a pediatric hematologist/oncologist, you can be assured that your child or teen will receive the best possible care.

American Academy of Pediatrics

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The information contained in this publication should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on individual facts and circumstances.

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