Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
Pediatric Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit
5 PICU/PCTICU

Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA
757 Westwood Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90095-7403
Pediatric ICU West: (310) 267-7540
Pediatric ICU East: (310) 267-7541
Welcome to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) and Pediatric Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit (PCTICU) at Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA. We understand that this is a very difficult time for both you and your child.

Our medical team is here to support you and your child and is available throughout the day and night to provide up-to-date information on your child’s condition and to answer any questions you may have.
Our Team

Pediatric ICU Medical Team
Judith Brill, MD
Yonca Bulut, MD
Myke Federman, MD
Leanna Huard, MD
Robert Kelly, MD
Andranik Madikians, MD
Andreas Schwingshackl, MD, PhD
Irwin Weiss, MD

Pediatric ICU Nursing Team
Unit Director
Clarice Marsh, MSN, RN, NE-BC

Clinical Nurse Specialist
Theresa Kirkpatrick, RN, MSN, CPNP, CCRN, CNS

Assistant Unit Directors
Kim Snider, RN, CCRN
Amy Houchens, MBA, BSN, RN
Important phone numbers

PICU WEST  
(310) 267-7540

PICU EAST  
(310) 267-7541

Unit Director  
Clarice Marsh, MSN, RN, NE-BC  
(310) 267-7590

Assistant Unit Directors  
Kim Snider, RN, CCRN  
(310) 267-7493

Amy Houchens, MBA, BSN, RN  
(310) 267-7573

Clinical Nurse Specialist  
Theresa Kirkpatrick, RN,  
MSN, CPNP, CCRN, CNS  
(310) 267-7589
To dial patient rooms

Each room has its own extension. To dial the room from within the hospital using a hospital phone, dial the five-digit extension. For example, for Room 5411 dial 76085.

To dial from a phone outside the hospital, add “26” before the extension. For example, for room 5411, you must dial (310) 267-6085.

### PICU/PCTICU patient room phone numbers

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Calling the PICU/PCTICU and telephones

When you leave the PICU/PCTICU, please make sure that the bedside nurse has a phone number where you can be reached in case there is a change in your child’s condition and we need to contact you.

Nurses’ station phones cannot be used by families to make or receive calls. Three convenient alternatives are available: a phone in the family waiting rooms outside the unit for local calls, a pay phone outside the unit, and a phone for parents to use in each of the patient rooms.
Visitation

Parents/legal guardians are welcome to visit 24 hours a day. Close family members may also visit with your permission. Visitors must call from outside the PICU/PCTICU to request entry into the unit. For your child’s safety and security, all parents and visitors must obtain a visitor badge or ID band from the information desk located in the lobby of Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. Siblings and close child relatives may visit, provided you complete a health screening form for each child (please ask your child’s nurse for a form). Children under 18 years of age must be supervised by an adult family member at all times.

The PICU/PCTICU can be frightening to visiting children. Mattel Children’s Hospital UCLA has a group of professionals who are trained to help children cope with a new and possibly scary place. We recommend that visiting children meet with a Child Life Specialist prior to entering the unit. Your bedside nurse or the charge nurse can help arrange this for you. Your family’s clergy may visit, with your permission, at any time.

Between the hours of 7 to 8 am and 7 to 8 pm, the on-duty bedside nurse will discuss each patient’s case with the new shift nurse. This process is known as the “nursing shift report”. During these times, visitors are asked to wait inside their child’s room with the door closed. To comply with federal law regarding patient privacy, free movement through the unit cannot be permitted during these times.

Visitors must allow staff clear access to the patient and equipment at all times.
During an emergency or a procedure, you may be asked to wait outside the unit. Your bedside nurse or the charge nurse may call support staff to help answer your questions.

**Infection control**

Hand washing is a top priority to prevent the spread of infection. All visitors must wash their hands with soap and hot water or use the alcohol-based sanitizer upon entering and leaving the unit. Visitors with any signs of respiratory infection or illness will be encouraged to leave the unit. If they feel they cannot leave the unit, they will be required to wear a mask at all times.
Daily rounds

We encourage you to participate in daily rounds whenever possible. These rounds occur in the morning between 7:30 and 11 am. If you prefer not to participate or are unable to attend, the bedside nurse and/or physician will update you on the daily plan of care when possible. We also welcome and encourage families to participate in their child/family member’s daily care whenever appropriate.

Overnight accommodations

One parent or adult guardian may spend the night with the child in the room, provided he or she is free of contagious illness. In-room sleeping accommodations consist of a sleeping chair, pillow and blanket. For safety reasons, no other sleeping arrangement is allowed. Frequent patient assessments are made throughout the night, and although we will try as much as possible not to disturb you, you should expect regular interruptions to your sleep. Visiting children cannot remain overnight in the unit. Waiting rooms are not sleeping areas and must be kept open for immediate use. Our social worker staff can help you locate outside accommodations.
Food and drinks

Since many of our patients are not allowed to eat, we ask that you eat outside the unit. Your child will be allowed to eat in the room when his or her medical condition permits. Food and drinks must be kept clear of equipment. No food storage is allowed in patient rooms. You may purchase a guest meal ticket that is redeemable for one patient guest, per day for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Please see your bedside nurse for more information.
Patient confidentiality

Due to privacy laws, we can give information about your child’s condition only to his or her legal guardian(s) or designee(s).

Parents/legal guardians may call the unit at any time to speak to their child’s nurse or doctor. To protect your child’s privacy, information will be given to other family members and friends only with the express permission of the parents/legal guardians. The PICU/PCTICU medical team will share all information about your child with you. If you would like us to share information with other family members or friends, we utilize a privacy code number which will be given to you by your nurse. Please share this code number with those you choose to receive information.

Callers with the code number will have their questions answered. Callers without the code number will be directed to call you for information. Please remember it is helpful if you designate one family member to disperse information about your child. Multiple phone calls to the bedside nurse will take time away from the care he or she is providing to your child.

PICU/PCTICU staff cannot discuss any information regarding other patients. Additionally, visitors should move directly to and from their child’s room without lingering in the hallways or outside other patients’ rooms.