

# Inpatient Care for Medically Complex Patients at Kennedy Krieger Institute

## Who We Are

Kennedy Krieger Institute provides intensive, inpatient therapeutic care for individuals from infancy through age 21 who require hospitalization or rehabilitation for complex medical needs.

## Who We Serve

Children in need of specialized care, which includes:

- Ventilator dependence or weaning
- Tracheostomy dependence or weaning
- Failure to thrive
- Bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP) management for weaning tolerance
- Pain medication weaning
- Wound care management
- Nutrition management for children with new feeding tubes
- NICU graduates with oral motor dysfunction
- Prolonged IV antibiotics or total parenteral nutrition (TPN)
- Peritoneal dialysis
- Tracheostomy and decannulation
- NG/gastrostomy tube management
- Therapy regimen adherence

Inpatient stays range from a week to several months, as we care for individuals with both short- and long-term needs.

## Our Team

Children with complex medical conditions require a family-centered, comprehensive, and interdisciplinary approach to patient care.

Our team brings together professionals from numerous fields and specialties to create treatment plans tailored to the individual needs of each patient throughout all levels of care. Patients are under the care of a physician-directed treatment team which may include:

- Pediatric hospitalists
- Pediatric certified nurses
- Wound certified nurses
- Respiratory therapists
- Child life specialists
- Behavioral psychologists
- Neuropsychologists
- Education specialists
- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- Speech language pathologists
- Nurse case managers
- Social workers
- Nutritionists



## Our Approach

Our interdisciplinary team works together to meet each patient's unique and complex medical needs. We collaborate with the referring physician and the family to better understand the patient's needs prior to admittance and to ensure a smooth transition to our hospital.

The needs of patients are assessed prior to admission, and their daily plan will include a schedule of appropriate physical, behavioral, and cognitive therapies. Additionally, patients and families are at the center of the care plan, with the goal of returning each individual back to family, school, and community life. Therefore, caregiver education and training are an important component of the treatment plan.

Our team consults with specialists as needed to assist in the care of the patient.

We are all born with great potential.  
Shouldn't we all have the chance to achieve it?



Kennedy Krieger Institute  
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

## Discharge Planning

At Kennedy Krieger, discharge planning is an integral part of the process and begins even before admission. Each discharge is managed by both a nurse care manager and a social worker, who coordinate with the patient and family to ensure a smooth and safe transition to home, school, and community. Working with resources in the community is also an important part of the discharge plan.

## Demographics and Patient Satisfaction

- An average of 43 patients per year are admitted into our Complex Medical Inpatient Program
- The average age of patients in this program is 5 years old
- The average length of stay for this group of patients is 21 days
- 100% of patient families surveyed would recommend Kennedy Krieger Institute to others
- 96% of patient families surveyed agree that we make them feel like a partner in their child's care
- 100% of patient families surveyed agreed that the care provided to their child from our physicians or nurse practitioners was good or excellent



## Contact Information

### Inpatient Care for Medically Complex Patients at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information or to make a referral, please call **443-923-9416** or toll-free at **888-554-2080**.

TTY: **443-923-2645** or Maryland Relay **711**

**KennedyKrieger.org**

### Clinic Location:

707 North Broadway  
Baltimore, MD 21205

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of patients and their families and treats them with courtesy and dignity. Care is provided in a manner that preserves cultural, psychosocial, spiritual and personal values, beliefs, and preferences. We encourage patients and families to become active partners in their care by asking questions, requesting resources, and advocating for the services and support they need.



Learn More. Get Involved. Stay Connected. Visit **KennedyKrieger.org/Connect**.