

Pediatrics

RESIDENCY PROGRAM AT
Memorial Health

Welcome to the Pediatrics Residency Program at Memorial Health

The Pediatrics Residency Program at Memorial Health is part of the HCA Healthcare Graduate Medical Education network. HCA Healthcare is the nation's leading provider of quality, patient-centered care. We are also the leader in graduate medical education, all brought together by a single mission:

Above all else, we are committed to the care and improvement of human life.

ACGME ID: 3201221400

Tracks & Positions

Tracks	NRMP #	Available Positions
Categorical	1971320C0	8

Salary

PGY1	PGY2	PGY3	PGY4	PGY5
\$55,217	\$56,819	\$58,587	\$60,688	\$63,204

Welcome to the Pediatric Residency Program at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah, Georgia. We are pleased that you are considering our program for your general pediatric residency training.

Our program began in 1996 to meet the primary healthcare needs of children in southeast Georgia. There are now more than 200 pediatricians practicing in the region, and we are thrilled to care for our patients in our newly constructed, freestanding children's hospital - the Memorial Health Dwaine & Cynthia Willett [Children's Hospital of Savannah](#).

Our program seeks empathetic pediatricians with strong interests in advocacy and general pediatric medicine. As a regional referral and trauma center, The Children's Hospital of Savannah offers a comprehensive training in general pediatrics. As the region's only academic pediatric program, we offer the highest quality of care in the region and treat many children with diverse backgrounds and complex medical needs. Our pediatric residents play integral roles in teaching and leading our students at Mercer School of Medicine. Our small size affords our residents frequent mentoring from our dedicated group of core faculty in a supportive learning environment. Our graduates have embarked on a variety of career paths, and are well-prepared for future pursuits in either academic or community medicine. Candidates with special interests in rural and underserved populations are encouraged to apply.

Complementary to our Children's Hospital, the historic city of Savannah offers a blend of suburban and urban living in a vibrant environment. Known as the "Hostess City of the South," Savannah offers a great coastal lifestyle, temperate climate, and dozens of restaurants and museums.

The Memorial Health Willett Children's Hospital of Savannah serves as a regional academic medical center rooted in its mission to care for our community. We look forward to working with you to advocate and care for the children of Georgia and beyond.

Sincerely,



Alison E. Niebanck, M.D.

Pediatric Program Director

Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Mercer University School of Medicine

About the Program

Mission Statement

The Memorial Health University Medical Center Pediatrics Residency Program's mission is to develop the next generation of physicians and physician leaders. As a part of HCA Healthcare, we are driven by a single mission: Above all else, we are committed to the care and improvement of human life.

This program is designed to offer residents a rewarding, educational environment where residents are provided individualized learning opportunities by faculty and staff who support and sustain one another throughout quality care delivery. Our faculty are committed to ensuring the residents' clinical experience and educational needs are fulfilled while expanding residents' perspectives to be inclusive of cultures, values, and ideals.



Program Overview

The Pediatric Residency Program at the Memorial Health Dwaine & Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital of Savannah provides a strong foundation in general pediatrics and community medicine.

Program highlights include:

- The only children's hospital in southeast Georgia; it includes a Level 1 trauma center, pediatric intensive care unit, pediatric emergency department, and Level III neonatal intensive care nursery
- 73,000 outpatient visits per year, including outpatient/emergency department/subspecialist visits; 4,700 children's hospital admissions; and 2,900 deliveries
- Exposure to a vast array of diagnoses ranging from common conditions to the more rare and complex
- A large catchment area that provides exposure to both urban and rural patient populations
- A collegial and welcoming group of residents who support one another during residency
- Off-campus rotations within the Savannah community at both subspecialists' and general pediatricians' offices
- Strong training in patient safety and quality improvement through our systemwide graduate medical education initiatives
- Dedicated clinical faculty committed not only to medical education, but also to the community and children with special health needs
- A training area that effortlessly supports work-life balance with ready access to the beach, water sports, vibrant nightlife, and an ever-growing arts and culinary community

Curriculum

Residents complete their core rotations in general pediatrics and attend their continuity clinic at the Memorial Health Dwaine & Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital of Savannah Outpatient Center. During the ambulatory experience, the resident learns to manage the growth and development of the healthy child and treat a wide variety of acute and chronic pediatric illnesses within the context of the medical home.

This experience also involves interaction with social services, nutrition, nursing, and other members of the pediatric team. The resident conducts comprehensive history and physical examinations in a variety of clinical situations and becomes familiar with medications and treatments that are common to outpatient practice. Well-child visits and screening practices are based on the AAP Bright Futures guidelines.

Pediatric Emergency Medicine

The resident works in the pediatric emergency department and becomes familiar with emergency management of the acutely ill child. Residents are supervised by attendings who are sub-boarded in pediatric emergency medicine.

Residents participate in the identification of illness or injury, the stabilization and treatment of the patient, and the transfer of that patient to the pediatric floor, pediatric intensive care unit or other services. In addition, the resident develops skills in identifying and managing pediatric trauma and pediatric resuscitation alongside Memorial Health University Medical Center's Level 1 Trauma Center.

Inpatient Pediatrics

Residents rotate through the inpatient service during all three years of residency

with graduated levels of responsibility. Residents work on the general acute care floor and the pediatric specialty unit and are supervised by pediatric hospitalists or subspecialty attendings.

The resident on the inpatient service learns to evaluate and care for children with disorders requiring inpatient therapy. Residents work in interprofessional teams along with consultants, nutritionists, child life specialists, case management specialists, and social workers.

Neonatology Experience

Residents complete a minimum of two educational units in Memorial Health University Medical Center's neonatal intensive care nursery. The resident learns to perform basic history and physical examinations on infants admitted to the NICU and attends high-risk deliveries with the neonatologist, nurse practitioner, and transport team to learn resuscitation and stabilization skills.

The resident works with the neonatologist to direct stabilization and transport of sick newborns from outlying hospitals. Residents also participate in procedures common to neonatology.

Pediatric Intensive Care Experience

Residents rotate through the pediatric ICU during the PGY1 and PGY2 years and are supervised by attendings boarded in pediatric critical care medicine.

The pediatric resident obtains a firm knowledge in the care and assessment of the critically ill child from infancy through adolescence. The resident learns to recognize, stabilize, and manage the care of the acutely ill child, including infection, neurologic, cardiac, pulmonary, and/or traumatic multi-system failure.

The resident learns to apply principles and pathophysiology to the critically ill child and learns a full range of techniques and procedures, including airway

management and invasive hemodynamic monitoring skills. The resident understands the multidisciplinary approach to the care of the critically ill child and the roles played by each service in the overall management of the child's illness and support of the family's needs.

Normal Newborn Experience

Residents rotate through the newborn nursery during the PGY1 and PGY3 years and are supervised by an academic generalist attending.

During this rotation, the resident learns all aspects of normal newborn care and learns to distinguish well from sick infants. The resident is able to identify high-risk infants and plan for appropriate intervention. Common anomalies, birth defects, and syndromes are recognized and appropriate referrals made for follow-up care.

Adolescent Medicine Experience

This experience constitutes at least one month of the residency. During this rotation, the resident becomes familiar with evaluating and managing common issues, concerns, and problems of adolescents; understanding adolescent growth and development; obtaining a thorough history from adolescents and their parent(s); and performing an appropriate physical examination.

The resident will increase awareness of public health issues for adolescents and recognize the importance of family, school, and social influence on the development and health of adolescents.

Subspecialties

Hematology/Oncology

Residents complete four weeks of inpatient and outpatient hematology and

oncology during the intern year, and two weeks during the PGY2 year.

Residents are supervised by attendings boarded in pediatric hematology and oncology and work in The Memorial Health Willett Children's Hospital Outpatient Center and the pediatric specialty care unit. The resident learns to recognize and understand normal age-specific hematologic findings and learns historic physical and laboratory findings leading to a hematologic or oncologic abnormality.

The resident learns various strategies of treatment and their associated risks/limitations, as well as how to treat toxicities associated with therapy. The resident learns to recognize hematologic and oncologic emergencies and implement appropriate therapeutic actions, becomes aware of common side effects of chemotherapeutic agents and becomes familiar with supportive care issues.

Cardiology

Residents may choose to complete a cardiology elective during the PGY2 or PGY3 years.

Residents are supervised by pediatric cardiologists at the Savannah Children's Heart Center. During this subspecialty experience, the resident develops an understanding of the classification of heart disease (both congenital and acquired) in infants, children, and adolescents, including innocent murmurs, arrhythmias, syncope, chest pain, and complex congenital heart disease.

The resident develops skills in the physical examination and diagnosis of patients with suspected heart disease, as well as the appropriate management, referral, and ongoing follow-up in both the inpatient and outpatient setting.

Endocrinology

Residents may choose to complete an endocrinology elective during the PGY2 or PGY3 years.

The resident works in the inpatient setting and in the endocrine clinic at the Memorial Health Willett Children's Hospital Outpatient Center. This unit provides a comprehensive experience involving the treatment of children with metabolic disease, diabetes mellitus, growth abnormalities, endocrine disorders, and metabolic bone disease.

Neurology

Residents may choose to complete a neurology elective during the PGY2 or PGY3 year.

Residents see patients in the outpatient setting at Savannah Neurology Specialists and care for patients admitted to the inpatient unit. Residents are supervised by pediatric neurologists. The resident develops a structured neurologic approach to physical examination and diagnosis.

The inpatient neurologic evaluation of critical illness and neonatal neurology are stressed. The resident develops knowledge of seizure classification, diagnosis, and treatment. In addition, residents develop an understanding of the neurological basis of developmental and congenital disorders, headache, and other outpatient neurological issues.

Community Pediatrics

Residents experience longitudinal instruction in community pediatrics throughout the three years of residency. Residents learn about vulnerable populations, cultural competency, and advocacy through rotations at Savannah's Federally Qualified Health Center during the PGY1 and PGY2 years.

In addition, residents complete their community pediatrics curriculum during their community pediatrics rotation in the third year. The community pediatrics curriculum is based on the consensus statement of the Dyson Initiative regarding competency in community pediatrics.

Other Electives

In addition to the core curriculum and the above subspecialties, electives are available in

- orthopedics/sports medicine
- allergy-immunology
- infectious disease
- ophthalmology
- ENT
- pediatric surgery
- pediatric radiology
- procedural sedation
- urology
- private practice pediatrics



Rotation Schedule

Pediatric Level 1

Core Rotation	Weeks
Ambulatory	8*
Developmental/Behavioral	4
Pediatric ENT	4
Hematology/Oncology	4
Inpatient	13*
Normal Newborn	4
Pediatric ICU	4
Night Shift - Inpatient	7
Community Pediatrics	4
* Two weeks of these rotations consist of orientation	

Pediatric Level 2

Core Rotation	Weeks
Adolescent	4
Ambulatory	4
Emergency Pediatrics	4 or 8
Inpatient	6
Neonatal Intensive Care	4
Pediatric ICU - Night Shift	6
Hospitalist	4
Pediatric ICU	6
Hematology/Oncology	2 to 4
Selectives (listed below)	12

Pediatric Level 3

Core Rotation	Weeks
Ambulatory/Private Practice	4
Emergency Pediatrics	4 or 8
Inpatient Supervisor	4 or 8
Neonatal Intensive Care	4
Night Shift Supervisor	6
Community Pediatrics	4
Selectives/Electives (listed below)	16

Selective Experience

These are ACGME/RRC required one-month block rotations. You must complete a minimum of four.

- Allergy/Immunology
- Cardiology
- Endocrinology
- Hematology/Oncology (completed in core rotations)
- Neurology
- Infectious Diseases

You must complete a minimum of three additional educational units consisting of single subspecialties or combinations of subspecialties. Experiences may include the list above or the following:

- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedics
- Otolaryngology
- Radiology
- Surgery

Additional Elective Experience

- Private Practice/Practice Management
- Urology
- Sedation

Call Schedule

On-Call and Night Shifts

Our pediatric residency program complies with the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education requirements for resident work hours. All call is in-house with varying responsibility, depending on the rotation and year of training. On any night there is at least one intern and one senior resident (PGY2 or PGY3) in-house. Attending support is available from critical care, pediatric faculty, and subspecialty attendings.

During the first year, interns have seven weeks of night shift. The night shift intern admits patients to the pediatric ward for the general pediatric service and for subspecialists. The intern also responds to acute issues for pediatric ward patients. The intern has direct supervision from a third-year supervising night shift resident.

Upper level (PGY2 and PGY3) call is primarily night shift. Residents rotate on night shift in the pediatric intensive care unit for six weeks during PGY2 and rotate as the inpatient night shift supervisor for six weeks during PGY3. The PGY2 night shift resident admits all patients to the pediatric intensive care unit and responds to acute issues in the unit.

The PGY3 night shift supervisor evaluates all patients admitted by the night shift intern and provides support and supervision. Night shift hours are 5 p.m. – 6:30 a.m., Sunday through Thursday.

During the weekends, interns work 12- or 24-hour shifts and are supervised by a PGY2 or PGY3.

Upper-level residents take weekend call either

- Friday, 5 p.m. – 6:30 a.m. and Sunday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Saturday, 6:30 a.m., to Sunday, 7 a.m.

Upper levels have an average of 13 calls per year.



About Our Program



Memorial Health's Dwaine and Cynthia Willett Children's Hospital



Our Faculty



Alison E. Niebanck, MD

- Program Director



Nicole Mula, DO

- Associate Program Director



Benjamin Mackowiak, MD

- Associate Program Director



Natalie Hogan, MD

- Department Chair



Michael Bossak, MD

- Pediatric Hospitalist Director



Evangeline Brown, MD

- Pediatric Hematology-Oncology



Bradley Buckler, MD

- Neonatology



Charrelle Coates, MD

- Adolescent Medicine



Brian Coleman, MD

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Jessica Donaldson, MD

- General Outpatient Pediatrics



Ashley Eason, MD

- Pediatric Hematology-Oncology



Samantha Eschborn, MD

- Neonatology



Erika Espino-Torres, MD

- Neonatology



Donna Evans, MD

- General Outpatient Pediatrics



Timothy Galey, MD

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Andrew Gunter, MD

- General Outpatient Pediatrics



Johanna Hall, MD

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Josh Haupt, MD

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Lauren Hebert, MD

- Pediatric Hospitalist



Andrea Heuser, MD

- Normal Newborn



Palmer Johnston, MD

- Neonatology



Sunil Keshwah, MD

- Pediatric Critical Care



Mary Carol Lytle, MD

- Pediatric Critical Care



Byron Mainor, MD

- Pediatric Emergency Medicine



Thomas McKee, MD

- Pediatric Hospitalist



Andrew Pendleton, MD

- Pediatric Hematology-Oncology



Ashley Shearman, MD

- Pediatric Hospitalist



Andrew Stack, MD

- Pediatric Critical Care



Heather Stewart, MD

- Pediatric Nephrology



Ashley Taylor, MD

- General Outpatient Pediatric



Eric Velazquez, MD

- Pediatric Endocrinology



Ricardo Zegarra-Linares, MD

- Pediatric Infectious Diseases

Not Pictured:

Jessica Lee, MD

Pediatric Critical Care

Michael Poole, MD

Pediatric ENT

Stephanie Ambrose, MD

Pediatric ENT

John DeVaro, MD

Pediatric Ophthalmology

Bruce Finkel, MD

Pediatric Allergy-Immunology

Patrick Broderick, MD

Pediatric Cardiology

John Pastorek, MD

Pediatric Cardiology

Kenneth Burch, MD

Pediatric Cardiology

William Boswell, MD

Pediatric Surgery

David Carney, MD

Pediatric Surgery

Miller Hamrick, MD

Pediatric Surgery

Katy Moretz, MD

Pediatric Neurology

Evan Siegall, MD

Pediatric Orthopedics

Current Residents



Andrew Bigham, MD
Chief Resident
Mercer University
School of Medicine
Class of 2022



Hirva Chudgar, MD
Ross University
School of Medicine
Class of 2022



Lydia Davidson, MD
Medical University of South
Carolina College of Medicine
Class of 2022



Alexandria Mayne, MD
Ross University
School of Medicine
Class of 2022



Morgan Myers, DO
Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine
Class of 2022



Joshua Pittman, MD
Morehouse School of Medicine
Class of 2022



Katherine Ross, MD
Chief Resident
St. George's University
School of Medicine
Class of 2022



Ashley Cheek, DO
Campbell University School of
Osteopathic Medicine
Class of 2023



Jessica Greenwood, MD
St. George's University
School of Medicine
Class of 2023



Kelsey Hicks, MD
University of Texas Medical
School at Houston
Class of 2023



Sayli Sant, MD
Rosalind Franklin University/
Chicago Medical School
Class of 2023



Alison Smith, DO
A.T. Still University of Health
Sciences School of Osteopathic
Medicine in Arizona
Class of 2023



Alexandra Springhetti, MD
St. George's University
School of Medicine
Class of 2023



Matthew Toma, MD
St. George's University
School of Medicine
Class of 2023



Eleen Zarebidaki, MD
St. George's University
School of Medicine
Class of 2023



Salony Dighamber, MD
 Wright state University
 Boonshoft School of Medicine
 Class of 2024



Nicholas Dodd, MD
 University of Texas Medical
 School at Houston
 Class of 2024



Marina Mizell, MD
 Pennsylvania State University
 College of Medicine
 Class of 2024



Shreya Patel, DO
 Philadelphia College of
 Osteopathic Medicine
 Class of 2024



Taylor Pearl, MD
 Ohio State University College of
 Medicine
 Class of 2024



Kelly Powell, MD
 St. George's University
 School of Medicine
 Class of 2024



Garrett Wilder, MD
 Mercer University
 School of Medicine
 Class of 2024



Lauren Yeargan, MD
 Mercer University
 School of Medicine
 Class of 2024

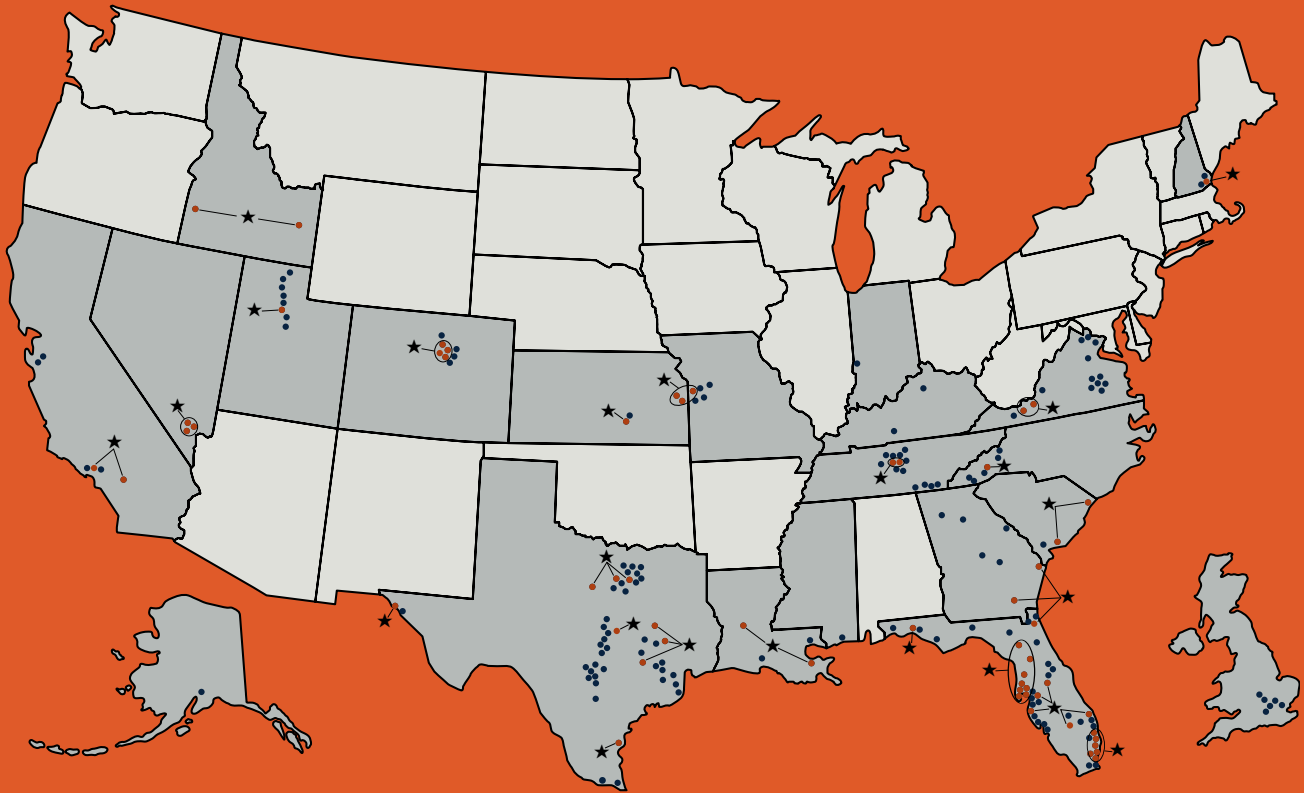
About HCA Healthcare GME

HCA Healthcare is a comprehensive healthcare network with over 275,000 colleagues across more than 2,000 care facilities all committed to creating a positive impact every day. We continually invest in our colleagues and facilities to better serve our patients and local communities. The Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs seek to inspire tomorrow's physicians to care for and improve human life by focusing on patient-centered approaches to practicing the latest evidence-based medicine.

To learn more about the benefits and expectations of training with an HCA Healthcare program, view our [Resident and Fellow Manual](#).



Our residency and fellowship programs are in **59**
hospitals located in **16** states



- ⊛ Residency or Fellowship Program
- HCA Healthcare Hospital



Size

HCA Healthcare Graduate Medical Education is the largest sponsor of residency and fellowship programs across the nation.

4,637
residents

289
fellows

218
specialty programs (residencies)

79
sub-specialty programs
(fellowships)



Scholarly Activity

HCA Healthcare Graduate Medical Education provides a critical link between vigorous scholarly activity and real-world patient care from a sophisticated data repository of more than 32 million patient encounters each year.

2,500+ HCA Healthcare GME scholarly activities in 2020-21.



Clinical Training

Each year approximately five percent of all U.S. hospital services happen at an HCA Healthcare facility, including:

32+ million patient encounters
7.4 million emergency room visits
215,000+ babies delivered

HCA Healthcare Graduate Medical Education is a leader in clinical experience.

- Nationally known physician expertise across the country
- Investments in facilities allowing the advancement of patient care
- High emphasis on simulation results and low patient incidents
- Higher patient touch than academic facilities
- Annual collaborative mass casualty event team training

A commitment to scholarly activity

Based on more than 32 million patient encounters each year, our scholarly activity bridges the gap between compelling evidence and exceptional patient care.



Our experiential learning is rooted in evidence-based medicine that leads to innovative, **real-world patient health solutions**.

Merging the rigor of **ACGME** accreditation with high patient touch, our residents and fellows deliver evidence-based care that demonstrates our mission to care for and improve human life.

We offer **National Grand Rounds** that leverage accomplished clinical expertise from across HCA Healthcare, bringing the nation's leading medical experts to our residency and fellowship programs.

Notable Publications

- *JAMA Internal Medicine*
- *Annals of Surgical Oncology*
- *CHEST Journal*
- *American Journal of Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine*
- *Obstetrics & Gynecology*

Notable Presentations

- American College of Cardiology
- Society of Critical Care Medicine
- American College of Physicians
- Society of Hospital Medicine
- American College of Surgeons

Influential Collaboration

HCA Healthcare residents and fellows have access to talented, highly skilled teams of faculty, industry experts and dedicated researchers to guide them through their journey. Residents and fellows produce evidence that drives future practice by leveraging HCA Healthcare's national clinical data warehouse – the heart of our data ecosystem.

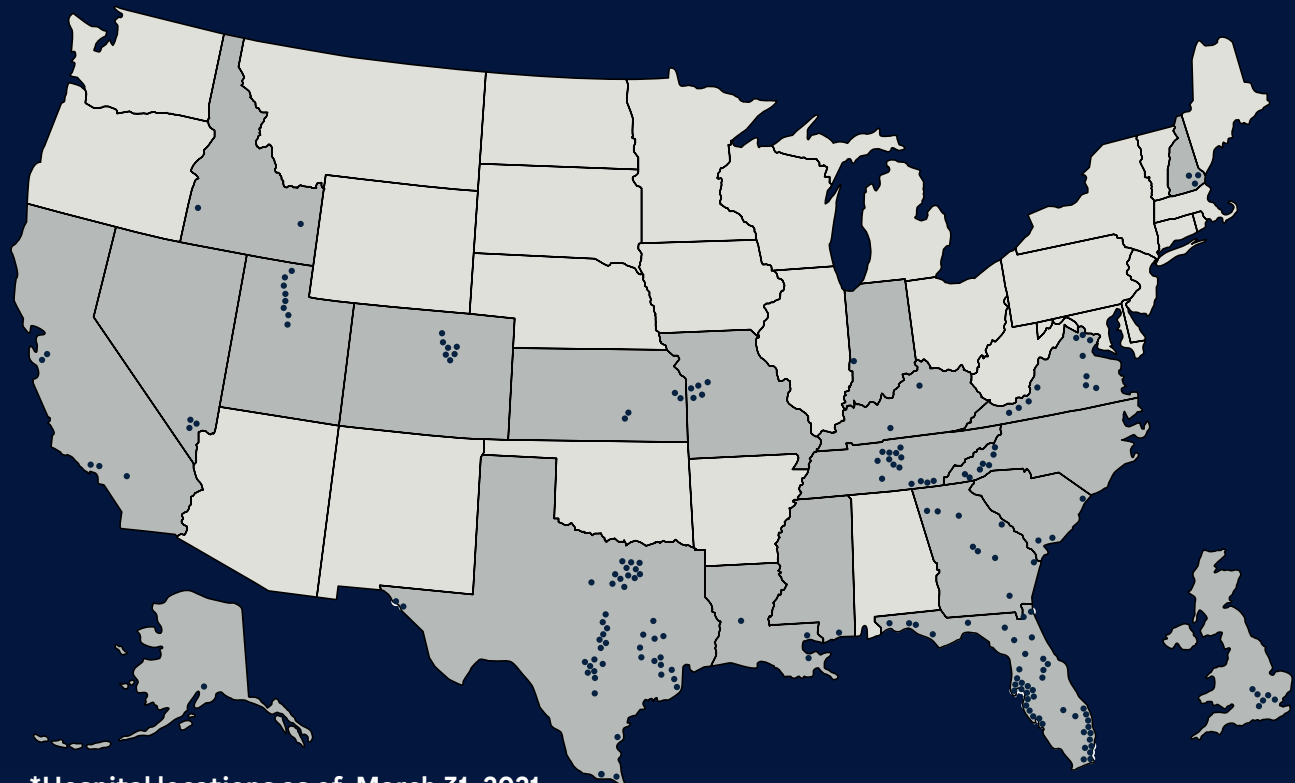
HCA Healthcare Scholarly Commons is a platform to collect, share and publish the variety of academic work created by the Graduate Medical Education community. During 2020, readership of those works eclipsed the 25,000 mark. Included on this platform is the **HCA Healthcare Journal of Medicine**, a peer reviewed scientific periodical focused on innovation, enhanced quality and developing new knowledge in clinical care and medical education for the benefit of all patients. In its first year of publication, the journal disseminated 86 articles in six issues as well as a seventh special issue on the COVID-19 pandemic.

About HCA Healthcare

HCA Healthcare is one of the nation's leading providers of healthcare services and is comprised of 186 hospitals and more than 2,000 sites of care including surgery centers, freestanding ERs, urgent care centers, diagnostic and imaging centers, walk-in clinics and physician clinics in 20 states and the United Kingdom. With its founding in 1968, Nashville-based HCA Healthcare created a new model for hospital care in the United States.



186 hospitals and more than **2,000** sites of care
located in **20** states and the United Kingdom



*Hospital locations as of March 31, 2021

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Size

275,000
colleagues

93,000+
registered nurses

47,000[^]
active and affiliated physicians



Patient Care

HCA Healthcare's U.S. hospitals provide approximately 5% of all inpatient hospital services in the country.

In 2020:

32+ million
patient encounters

7.4 million
emergency room visits

215,000
babies delivered

View the **HCA Healthcare Community Impact Report** to learn more about our award-winning programs, technology advances and partnerships with community organizations to fulfill our commitment to the care and improvement of human life.



Giving Back

\$3.4+ billion
estimated 2020 cost for the delivery of charity care, uninsured discounts and other uncompensated care

\$45 million
in charitable cash contributions provided across the enterprise in 2020

We are committed to expanding our relationships with our communities by investing **\$10 million** over the next three years in Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) across our footprint.*

*Starting in 2021



Industry Leader

Sarah Cannon, the Cancer Institute of HCA Healthcare, provides **state-of-the-art cancer care** close to home for hundreds of thousands of patients, a number unmatched by any single cancer center.

HCA Healthcare affiliates deliver healthcare services in **more than 150 languages and dialects**.

HCA Healthcare has treated more COVID-19 inpatients than any other health system in the U.S.

[^]Approximate

