Diseases and Conditions That Can Lead to Intestine Failure

Short bowel syndrome as a result of:

- Gastroschisis
- Intestinal atresia
- Necrotizing enterocolitis
- Volvulus

Motility disorders

- Hirschsprung disease
- Intestinal pseudo-obstruction

Congenital enteropathies

- Microvillus inclusion disease
- Tufting enteropathy

Pioneering New Treatments

Seattle Children’s Intestinal Care and Transplant Program brings together the expertise of national leaders in the field who developed and performed the first intestine transplant surgeries. The team continues to be at the forefront of new developments regarding anti-rejection therapies and multi-organ transplants. Once a completely experimental procedure, intestine transplant has become the preferred treatment for children with permanent intestine failure. As the sole pediatric intestine transplant program in Washington, Alaska, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Hawaii, we serve patients from birth through age 21.

Improved Quality of Life

Our work with children and teens with intestinal failure is focused on increasing quality of life by using intestinal rehabilitation whenever possible. We have the only comprehensive Intestinal Care Program in the Pacific Northwest focused on helping children restore intestine function without transplant through diet, medication and non-transplant surgical therapies. These therapies include bowel-lengthening procedures such as serial transverse enteroplasty (STEP). When transplant is the only alternative, surgical advances developed at Children’s have improved survival rates for children undergoing small intestine transplant.
Partnering for Best Outcomes

Because of the lifelong follow-up care necessary for intestine transplant patients, we believe it is especially important to develop strong and lasting partnerships with our patient families and referring physicians. We make it a priority that each child with intestine failure receives an unsurpassed level of integrated care at home and at Children's. Our case-focused, family-centered approach includes:

**Continuity of Care** — A hepatologist and a nurse coordinator work together to oversee the care of each child, producing a customized treatment plan and coordinating care within a team of medical and surgical specialists.

**Interdisciplinary Team** — Headed by the nation’s finest pediatric transplant surgeons and hepatologists, our team includes nurses, dietitians, pharmacists and social workers specializing in the care of children with intestine failure.

**Family-Centered Care** — Families are included in decision-making as we address medical, surgical, emotional, developmental and social issues together.