

Clinical Connection

News, Updates and Support for Healthcare Professionals



Kennedy Krieger Institute

REHABILITATION • DEVELOPMENTAL MEDICINE • BEHAVIORAL THERAPIES

Dear Colleagues,

Kennedy Krieger Institute is known for having many areas of expertise. In some of those areas, we are one of very few places in the world to deliver care and conduct research. For example: Providing rehabilitative care and researching new methods for treating diseases, disorders and injuries that cause neurological dysfunction are two of those areas.



Pediatric physiatry is a cornerstone of what we do. You'll read here about Dr. Stacy Suskauer, who was recently appointed to the dual roles of vice president of pediatric rehabilitation for Kennedy Krieger and director of the Division of Pediatric Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Johns Hopkins Medicine.

In Dr. Suskauer's new roles, she leads the largest network of pediatric rehabilitation professionals in the country. And she's right here at Kennedy Krieger in Baltimore.

Through this network, we provide you and your patients, and their families, access to extraordinary pediatric rehabilitative care. Whether a child is recovering from an accident or injury, or has a genetic disorder that impacts the nervous system or an illness or disease that is causing dysfunction, we are here to help.

We value our collaborative relationship with you. Our goal is to be an extension of the care that you provide to your patients and their families.

Thank you for the trust you put in us, and for entrusting your patients to our care.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad'.

Bradley L. Schlaggar, MD, PhD
President and CEO

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Pediatric Rehabilitation Services
- Different Settings of Care for Pediatric Rehabilitation
- Dr. Suskauer to Head Large Network of Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinicians
- How to Make a Referral

REFERRING YOUR PATIENTS

To support the needs of physicians and other healthcare professionals, our Patient Access team is available to provide information on appropriate clinical programs, handle referrals, obtain consultations with Institute specialists, and schedule both telehealth and on-site, in-person appointments for patients and families.

Call **443-923-9403** to reach our Physician Referral Line, or visit **KennedyKrieger.org/Referrals** for information and resources for physicians and healthcare professionals.

For general information, visit **KennedyKrieger.org** or call **1-888-554-2080**.

OUR CULTURE OF CARE

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of employees, trainees, and patients and students, and their families. At Kennedy Krieger, we ground our care, services, training and research in treating others with respect and civility. We respect the cultural identity of every person. Kennedy Krieger does not discriminate against people based on, but not limited to, perceived or actual race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, language spoken, accent, marital status, veteran or military status, immigration status, disability, religion, pregnancy status, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. We strive for equitable care for all individuals for whom we provide services, training, education and research participation. We encourage employees, trainees, and patients and students, and their families, to become active partners in the services provided by asking questions, seeking resources and advocating for their needs. © 2022 Kennedy Krieger Institute 9/2022

Pediatric Rehabilitation Services

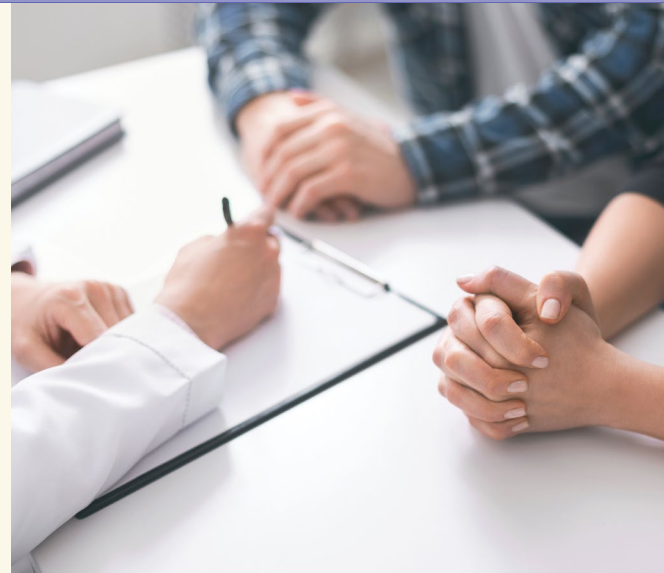
Kennedy Krieger leads the way in rehabilitative care and research to help individuals restore movement and functioning for improved quality of life.

Rehabilitation is a cornerstone of everything we do at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Our Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinic provides comprehensive rehabilitative services for infants, children and adolescents with permanent and temporary disabilities and disorders of the brain, spinal cord and musculoskeletal system.

The Physiatrist Advantage

Our pediatric rehabilitation programs are led by highly experienced physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians. They develop and manage effective and holistic treatment plans to help restore movement and functioning for children and young adults impacted by disease or injury.

Our board-certified pediatric physiatrists comprise one of the largest groups of physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians in the country. With each patient, they take a “big-picture” approach and focus on the entire person. This is particularly helpful for hard-to-diagnose presentations or patients with diagnoses that result in chronic issues or loss of functioning.



After evaluating a patient and developing an individualized treatment plan for them, our fellowship-trained physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians work with an interdisciplinary team of clinical experts to help the patient—medically, emotionally and socially—live their life to the fullest, at home and in their community.

Different Settings of Care for Pediatric Rehabilitation

Kennedy Krieger Institute provides inpatient, day hospital and outpatient rehabilitation care for individuals with physical or cognitive challenges due to injury, illness or congenital disorders, from birth to age 21, with outpatient care often continuing well into adulthood. We use an interdisciplinary team model that includes physicians, nurses, occupational and physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, behavioral psychologists, neuropsychologists, social workers, educational specialists, nutritionists, child life specialists, therapeutic recreation specialists, assistive technology specialists, and clinical care managers to treat patients with a variety of conditions.



Our team is able to care for patients with tracheostomies, feeding tubes, ventilators, central lines and other technologies related to medically complex care. Here are some of the pediatric diseases, disorders and injuries we treat:

- Acute flaccid myelitis
- Ataxia and cerebellar disorders
- Bone and orthopedic disorders
- Brachial plexus injury
- Brain injury, including disorders of consciousness
- Cerebral palsy
- Chronic pain
- Complex medical conditions
- Concussion
- Limb differences
- Peripheral nerve injury
- Plagiocephaly
- Postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS)
- Spina bifida
- Spinal cord injury
- Torticollis

Dr. Suskauer to Head Large Network of Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinicians



Dr. Stacy Suskauer has been named vice president of pediatric rehabilitation at Kennedy Krieger Institute and director for the Division of Pediatric Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) in the Department of PM&R at Johns Hopkins Medicine. In this position, she oversees and leads pediatric rehabilitation clinicians for Johns Hopkins Medicine's pediatric hospitals—Johns Hopkins Children's Center, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital and Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in Florida—and here at Kennedy Krieger.

Of note is that in this new role, Dr. Suskauer now leads the largest group of pediatric physiatrists and allied professionals in the country. As vice president of rehabilitation, Dr. Suskauer will provide academic and operational oversight to the Institute's Rehabilitation Department and will work closely with the medical director of rehabilitation, Dr. Melissa Trovato, and other leaders at the Institute to grow and enhance our pediatric rehabilitative services.

Most recently, Dr. Suskauer has been the co-director, along with Dr. Beth Slomine, of the Center for Brain Injury Recovery at Kennedy Krieger. She will remain in this role, continuing her research focus on pediatric brain injury, especially on disorders of consciousness and concussion.

Dr. Suskauer began her relationship with the Institute as a pediatric rehabilitation fellow in 2005. She became a staff member at the Institute, and a faculty member at Johns Hopkins, in 2007. She's received numerous awards and honors during her 15 years at Kennedy Krieger, among them the 2020 American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine Mitchell Rosenthal Mid-Career Award. She is a collaborator, forging relationships with our colleagues in physical medicine and rehabilitation at Johns Hopkins Children's Center and serving on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention work group that designed the guidelines for the care of children experiencing mild concussion.

Dr. Suskauer received her undergraduate and medical school education at Duke University and completed a combined residency in pediatrics and physical medicine and rehabilitation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati. She then completed a pediatric rehabilitation fellowship at Kennedy Krieger and Johns Hopkins.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Suskauer for her accession to this critical role. We are so fortunate to have her continued service and leadership for our patients, their families and the many staff members and trainees who benefit from her mentorship and support.

How to Make a Referral

Email FindASpecialist@KennedyKrieger.org or call **443-923-9403** to access rehabilitation services, refer a patient or learn more about Kennedy Krieger's programs and services.



Kennedy Krieger Institute

707 North Broadway
Baltimore, Maryland 21205

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PATIENT CARE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Specialty Pediatric Hospital

Epilepsy Monitoring Unit
Feeding Disorders
Neurobehavioral Unit (NBU)
Rehabilitation Unit—brain injury, complex medical, pain management, postorthopedic surgery and spinal cord injury

Outpatient Centers, Programs and Services

International Adoption Clinic
Aquatic Therapy Program
Assistive Technology Clinic
Ataxia and Cerebellar Disorders Clinic
Audiology Clinic
Center for Autism and Related Disorders
Barth Syndrome Clinic
Batten Disease Clinic
Behavior Management Clinic
Bone Disorders Program
Brachial Plexus and Peripheral Nerve Clinic
Center for Brain Injury Recovery
Phelps Center for Cerebral Palsy and Neurodevelopmental Medicine
Child and Family Support Center
Child and Family Therapy Clinic
Community Rehabilitation Program
Concussion Clinic
Constraint-Induced and Bimanual Therapy Program
Pediatric Post-COVID-19 Rehabilitation Clinic
Cranial Cervical Clinic
Deafness-Related Evaluations Clinic
Center for Development and Learning
Pediatric Developmental Disabilities Clinic
Down Syndrome Clinic and Research Center
Epilepsy Clinic
Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program
Focused Interdisciplinary Therapy Program
Fragile X Clinic
Infant Neurodevelopment Center
Moser Center for Leukodystrophies
Limb Differences Clinic

Military Behavioral Health Services
Center for Genetic Muscle Disorders
Neurobehavioral Unit Outpatient Clinic
Neurology and Neurogenetics Clinic
Clinical Neurophysiology Laboratory
Neuropsychiatry in Epilepsy Program
Neuropsychology Department Outpatient Clinics
Specialized Transition Program, a Neurorehabilitation Day Hospital
Nutrition Clinic
Occupational Therapy Clinic
Orthopedic Clinic
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Clinic
Pediatric Pain Rehabilitation Program
Physical Therapy Clinic
Pediatric Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS) Clinic
Psychiatric Mental Health Program
Pediatric Psychology Consultation Program
Pediatric Rehabilitation Clinic
Rett Syndrome and Related Disorders Clinic
Seating Clinic
Sickle Cell Neurodevelopmental Clinic
Sleep Disorders Clinic and Lab
Speech and Language Outpatient Clinic
Philip A. Keelty Center for Spina Bifida and Related Conditions
International Center for Spinal Cord Injury
Hunter Nelson Sturge-Weber Syndrome Center
Synaptopathies Clinic
Tourette Syndrome Center of Excellence at Kennedy Krieger Institute and Johns Hopkins Medicine
Clinic for Transgender and Nonbinary Youth
Center for Child and Family Traumatic Stress
Tuberous Sclerosis Clinic
Weight Management Program

Continuums of Care

Continuums allow patients to be seen through all stages of care, including in 24-hour inpatient programs, day treatment, home- and community-based services, and outpatient programs. They include **Pediatric Feeding Disorders, Neurobehavioral Disorders and Pediatric Rehabilitation (brain injury, complex medical, pain management, postorthopedic surgery and spinal cord injury).**

For a complete list of all diagnoses, disorders, programs and services, visit [KennedyKrieger.org/PatientCare](https://www.kennedykrieger.org/PatientCare) or call **888-554-2080**. TTY users, please contact us at **443-923-2645**, or dial **711** to make a Maryland Relay call.