

Shriners Hospitals for Children: Where Hope and Healing Meet

Shriners Hospitals for Children® is a unique health care system with a reputation for finding answers, and giving families hope for their child's future. At our 22 locations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico, children receive expert care for orthopaedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the families' ability to pay for services. Since opening our first hospital in 1922, we have provided care to more than 1 million children, regardless of the families' ability to pay.



A History of Expert Specialty Care

The first Shriners Hospitals for Children – opened in the 1920s – were established primarily to care for children who had contracted polio. Today, the majority of the 22 Shriners Hospitals for Children provide care for children with all types of orthopaedic conditions, including clubfoot, hip disorders, limb deficiencies and deformities, scoliosis, and orthopaedic difficulties related to cerebral palsy and other neuromuscular conditions.

In the mid-1960s, Shriners became aware of a lack of medical expertise in pediatric burn care and opened three hospitals specializing in acute and rehabilitative burn care. These hospitals are the only ones initially established exclusively for the treatment of pediatric burns and related conditions.

A fourth hospital in our health care system offering treatment for burns also provides care for orthopaedic conditions, spinal cord injury and cleft lip and palate. These hospitals continue to be pioneers in pediatric burn treatment and research and are recognized as leaders in the development of improved and innovative treatment techniques.

In the early 1980s, the Shriners fraternity opened the nation's first pediatric spinal cord injury rehabilitation centers. There, patients have access to a complete range of services needed to recover to the fullest extent possible.

Cleft lip and palate is the health care system's fourth service line. Facial clefts are one of the most common birth defects in the U.S. Despite the frequency of its occurrence, and the severity of the deformities, care for patients with cleft lip and palate can be difficult to obtain. Shriners Hospitals for Children is committed to improving care for children with this condition through a comprehensive, coordinated program of clinical excellence, teaching and research.

Eligibility

Admission to our hospitals is based solely on medical need. All children, under the age of 18, are eligible for care if there is a reasonable possibility they could benefit from the specialized services available. All services are provided regardless of the ability to pay.

Educating Future Health Care Leaders

Shriners Hospitals for Children is committed to conducting high quality innovative research in the areas of burns, orthopaedic/musculoskeletal and neurological injury and disease in order to improve the care and quality of life of children with these conditions. The organization's research efforts not only benefit our patients, they contribute to the overall body of medical knowledge.

The health care system is also proud of its role in medical education. By maintaining relationships with several medical teaching facilities, Shriners Hospitals for Children fosters an academic environment committed to providing high-quality education for its medical staff and expert care to all patients.

Be Part of Our Mission

At all Shriners Hospitals for Children locations, our patients receive both expert treatment and support that encourages healthy, high-quality independent lives. The health care system depends on the generosity of donors to carry out this mission of improving the lives of children.

To learn how you can support our efforts, visit donate2shc.org or call **855-401-4897**.

2014 Patient Care Statistics:

In 2014, Shriners Hospitals for Children provided care to 127,426 patients regardless of the families' ability to pay for services. To learn more about the health care system, please visit shrinershospitalsforchildren.org.



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