Preparing for your child's first visit

Welcome to our practice

At **Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Cardiology**, we treat patients with congenital or acquired heart defects from before birth to age 21.

To diagnose heart problems, our staff will ask for your child's medical history. If needed, we will use tests such as an echocardiogram (an ultrasound image of the heart) to help with our diagnosis. We will keep you informed about the care your child needs and the available treatment options.

How to prepare

- Bring the names and addresses of all your child's doctors to the appointment.
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before your child's appointment to complete first-time visit paperwork.
- **Remember to bring your child's insurance card, medical referral form, insurance referral form and any medical records or prior test results that will be helpful for this appointment.**
- Bring your child's medicines, including vitamins and herbal medicines, or a copy of the prescription and any necessary medical records.
- Do not use lotions, oils or powders on your child's skin before the appointment.
- Your child's visit may take two to three hours depending on testing and the needs of patients seen before you. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Referrals

- Your insurance company or health plan may require a referral to see one of our doctors.
- If a referral is required, contact your primary care doctor for a referral before your visit.

Some referrals may take up to 72 hours to complete. Keep this in mind when making your child's appointment.

Financial information

Make sure to let us know about your current medical coverage.

If you have medical coverage:

- Specialist copayment is due at the time of your visit.
- Look at your plan before your child's appointment to see if there are referral requirements.
- You may be responsible for charges not paid by your child's insurance if you do not follow your plan's rules.

If you do not have medical coverage:

- Your child should not go without care. Call one of our financial counselors at **770-488-9204** to discuss payment arrangements.

Cancellations

Call our office as soon as possible if you:

- Will be more than 20 minutes late.
- Are unable to keep a scheduled appointment.

Social worker

We have a social worker to help you:

- Find health and community resources.
- Understand Medicaid and Social Security benefits.
- Support your family as you cope with your child's heart condition.

Billing questions

Call **770-488-9204** if you have questions about billing.

Hours of operation

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

After-hours calls

Some health problems happen after our offices close. Call **404-256-2593** or **800-542-2233** to talk to a pediatric cardiologist after business hours. This service is available 24 hours a day.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Cardiology locations

- Albany
- Alpharetta
- Athens
- Canton
- Center for Advanced Pediatrics
- Columbus
- Cumming
- Dalton
- Gainesville
- Hamilton Mill
- Johns Creek
- Lawrenceville
- Macon
- Marietta
- Newnan
- Oconee
- Rockdale
- Medical Office Building at Scottish Rite Hospital
- Stockbridge
- Thomasville
- Valdosta
- Villa Rica

Contact us

404-256-2593 or 800-542-2233

choa.org/cardiology

Visit choa.org/cardiologyappointment to schedule an appointment online.

Connect with us

Visit facebook.com/ChildrensCardiology or share your story with us at socialmedia@kidsheart.com.

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