



When you read up about your physical condition, you take an important tool into your own hands. The more you know about your physical condition, and the more positive steps you take, the better your chance for positive outcomes and treatment success.

Health Topic: Pediatric Urology

Pediatric urology is the subspecialty within urology that involves the diagnosis and treatment of congenital (i.e., present at birth) and acquired urological conditions in children and adolescents. Although General Urologists are trained and equipped to treat many common Pediatric Urological problems, an entire fellowship trained discipline has evolved to treat both the common and more uncommon conditions confronted by children. Central Ohio Urology Group has two fellowship trained pediatric urologists, Dr Stephen Smith and Dr. Adam Weiser.

Pediatric urologists treat conditions of the male reproductive tract and groin (e.g., undescended testicle, hernia, hydrocele) and the male and female urinary tracts (e.g., urinary tract infection).

The urinary tract consists of the organs that filter the blood and form urine (kidneys), the tubes that carry urine from the kidneys (ureters), the organ that stores urine (bladder), and the tube that carries urine from the bladder and removes it from the body (urethra).

The most common condition treated by pediatric urologists is urinary tract infection (UTI).

Other conditions include the following:

- Abnormally located urethral opening (hypospadias) , Redundant foreskin requiring circumcision or revision of circumcision
- Surgery of the groin including hernia, hydrocele, varicocele and undescended testicles.
- Reverse flow of urine from the bladder into the ureter and/or kidney (vesicoureteral reflux [VUR])
- Bedwetting (nocturnal enuresis), Daytime wetting and Urgency/Frequency/Dysfunctional Elimination Syndromes
- Distention of the kidney in utero (antenatal hydronephrosis)
- Ureteropelvic junction obstruction (UPJ obstruction)-Blockage of the kidney at its junction of the ureter

Pediatric Urological Examination

Most children under the care of a pediatric urologist are school-aged and younger. UTIs (e.g.,

cystitis) are most common in young girls and pediatric urological conditions are usually congenital and treated at a young age. Conditions such as vesicoureteral reflux and antenatal hydronephrosis are frequently diagnosed during prenatal ultrasound and hypospadias is usually diagnosed during infancy.

The pediatric urological examination includes a medical history and a comprehensive physical examination. A history of symptoms, illnesses, injuries, medications, prenatal ultrasound, and family history are documented.

Common diagnostic tests used in pediatric urology include ultrasound and x-ray examinations.