



Pediatric Surgeries At Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital

Dr. Nath is now performing pediatric surgeries at Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital. Located on Fannin Street in the Texas Medical Center, it is in the same area that parents are already familiar with.



"Over 37,000 children receive treatment at the children's hospital, which is located within the Memorial Hermann Hospital complex, your child is ensured access to advanced medical equipment and expert care by a full-service, university-affiliated hospital."

The children's hospital's patient rooms are bright and cheery. Each room contains a private bathroom with tub and shower and a resting area for parents.

On the 10th floor there is the Sun-room Playground and on other floors there are well-stocked play-rooms filled with videos, games, books and arts & crafts.

Parent Lounges are found on each floor with kitchen and laundromat facilities. Internet service is available in the Volunteer Office.

Anesthesia and nursing staff have been educated on the special needs of brachial plexus injury patients. Occupational therapists and orthotists have also been trained on the specific splinting needs



Pain Services, Child Life and Patient Advocacy are services that are available upon your request.

Pictures, maps, and more detailed logistics information are on Dr. Nath's website under Hospital Affiliations.

We hope that you and your child have a pleasant experience there.

National Brachial Plexus & Nerve Injury Foundation

The National Brachial Plexus & Nerve Injury Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to help families and individuals, in financial need, travel to the Texas Nerve & Paralysis Institute for evaluation and treatment. Final 501(c)3 status is pending.

If you need financial assistance for travel, please contact us toll-free at (866) 675-2200 or (713) 592-9900.

Upcoming Programs & Clinics

February 25-26 Chicago

BPI Management Workshop
with Dr. Nath & Dr. Pape

Easter Seals DuPage
Contact: (630) 620-4433 x 2100

For detailed information see
Dr. Nath's website
Patient Resources / Newsletters

April 6
New Jersey Clinic

at the office of
Dr. Trevor Desouza

contact
Cindy Servello (973) 366-5157
e-mail: cindy1OTR@aol.com

Animations On The Website

Have you seen the many new animations on the website?



Our computer animation specialist, Mark, has created and is continuing to create for us fabulous graphics and animations that you can find all over the website.

Mark's latest creations are the animation of the movements required when you make a tape for a video evaluation and an animation of the Triangle Tilt Surgery.



You will see more of our animated friend in the future including the "Living Glossary" which is currently in the works.

What Are Your Favorite Links?

If you'd like to share them with others, email them to

enews@drnathmedical.com

and we'll add them to our links section on the website

An Interview With Dr. Nath

Do you consider your approach conservative or aggressive?

I think "conservative" and "aggressive" are really very difficult terms to define. Everything depends on one person's particular perspective and experience. I actually think of myself as quite conservative in surgery and my overall approach to patients. However, if there is a particular problem present and it is becoming worse, I will not hesitate to attempt correction. There are technical challenges to operating on smaller and younger children that make some surgeons wait until the child is older, out of concern for their safety, and I support this. However, I am comfortable working on a child at any age.



What are your goals as a bpi surgeon?

I think that everyone's goals should be nothing less than normalcy. That, of course, is not always achievable, but I think every attempt should be made to achieve this within the parameters of the family's wishes, and what is safe for the child. Within the past year, I think we are closer than ever before to being able to have a straight arm and a functional arm for the large majority of children.

What are the most amazing discovery you have made in working with children and adults with brachial plexus injuries?

In my extensive experiences with patients suffering this injury, I would have to say that the most amazing discovery to me has been the innate capacity of people to rebound spiritually from difficult circumstances. These injuries impact young people in their primes and the effects are therefore magnified. Beyond simply the arm and hand, they impact families and friends and society as a whole. Within this context, I have consistently seen bravery and fortitude among children and adults barely out of their childhood, far beyond what they could be expected to show. This really is the most amazing thing I have ever seen.

Getting The Community Involved In This E-Newsletter

Can you imagine spending your whole life with a bpi or winged scapula and not knowing even one single person in the world who also has it?

That's what life was like for previous generations. The changes that have taken place over time have been unprecedented. We've gone from having absolutely nothing to having support groups all over the world, events throughout the year and internet access to information like never before. It's wonderful to see all this growth and change!

We'd like to see community sharing at the Texas Nerve & Paralysis Institute as well and this newsletter can be the messenger.

We're looking for great pictures, artwork, poems, stories of triumph and courage, your favorite therapy ideas and anything you'd like to share with the community as a whole.

Also, are there any topics that you would like to see in this newsletter? We've love to have your ideas!

Email anything you'd like to share to enews@drnathmedical.com.

Dr. Nath's Care Charts™ Is Ready For Your Input

Care Charts™ is a registry system located on Dr. Nath's website www.drnathbrachialplexus.com that has been designed to track patient progress both individually and by surgical group. Collection of long-term statistics is vital to assist specialists in the management and care of patients with brachial plexus injuries.

This system tracks the natural history of obstetrical brachial plexus injuries and will help us determine how we can alter the natural history with surgical intervention. It would be optimal if patient data is entered once every three months and it is critical that all surgery dates be entered as well.

Care Charts™ is extremely easy to use and will take only a few minutes

of your time. Input can be done by your doctor, therapist or parent. Parents can print the Input Forms so that the doctor or therapist can give you the necessary data for your input at an appointment. Once you register as a patient, you will receive a confirmation email. "Input Reminder" emails will also come automatically once a quarter to you and to your therapist.

Play with the "Test Patient" that's already set up to see what the system can do. We hope that you'll find it easy to use. We are still adding things and shifting things here and there and would appreciate any and all of your input. For technical assistance please contact:

info@drnathcarechart.com

Stand-Up MRI Center Opens To Patients

Texas Nerve & Paralysis Institute is now actively seeing patients for its new state-of-the-art ultra-open Stand-Up MRI.

The Stand-Up MRI scans patients standing, sitting, and in recumbent positions. For the first time, patients can be scanned in weight-bearing postures and in their position of symptoms.

A mother and non-sedated toddler are shown here watching cartoons on TV while being scanned. This is remarkable because we can now avoid the use of anesthesia for a substantial percentage of children currently requiring an MRI scan.



Patients can be scanned in flexion, extension, rotation and lateral bending. They can be sitting, standing, and in many other very specific positions.

There is an unprecedented degree of patient comfort due to the unobstructed view of the scanner room from inside the magnet. There is nothing in front of the patient's face.

Most insurance plans are accepted. Call Brenda at (713) 592-9800 for more info.

Website Notes

www.drnathbrachialplexus.com

Ready To Print PDF Files

From the home page, choose Patient Resources (on the top navigation bar) and you will find a menu option for Ready-To-Print files. In there are ready to print packets on Primary Surgery, Nerve Transfers, Mod Quad and Travel & Logistics information. These are great printouts for your pediatrician, therapist and family.

Illustrations & Animations

Illustrations and Animations can be found on the top navigation bar on the home page for Brachial Plexus Surgery. We have divided up the information into Nerve, Muscle and Bone groups. You'll find some amazing illustrations and animations in each group.

Coming Soon:

- Post-Surgery Parent Instructions and Therapy Protocol Sheets
- A Living Glossary
- Range of Motion exercises for newborns

We'd Like To Hear From You

Let us know what you'd like to see on the website. E-mail enews@drnathmedical.com

Did you receive more than one copy of this E-Newsletter?

Let us know at enews@drnathmedical.com

Send us your current email address and your name and we'll gladly remove the duplicate entries.

“Words Cannot Express How Grateful We Are For Dr. Nath”

Matthew

Emma

Danny

Rain

Jack

Amanda

Andrew

Justin

Kayla

Michael

Kallista

Maia

Tara

Brittany

Joseph

Katie

Katie

Nicholas

Jared

Alyssa

Erin

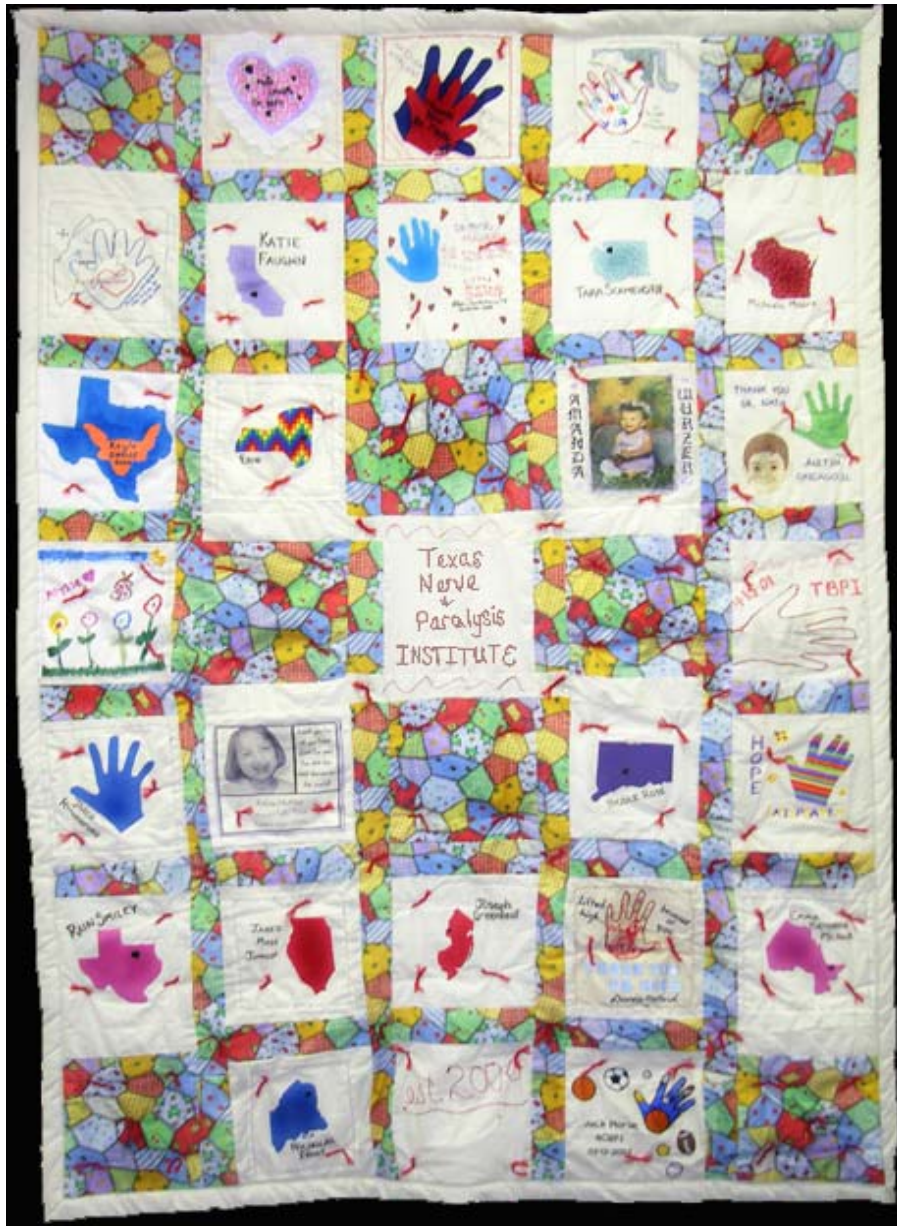
Jared

Michaela

Nicole

Courtney

Rose



The gratitude quilt was organized by Kara R. and Courtney E. and sewed together by Courtney's mom, Shellie.

Visit Dr. Nath's office and see this amazing quilt. Thank you to all who took part in this project. What a beautiful surprise!