

DID YOU KNOW?

No matter where you live, the world-class neurological and neurosurgical expertise of Wolfson Children's Hospital is now close to home.

Neuroscience Locations

Wolfson Children's Hospital – Main Campus

800 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32207
Hospital Information: **904.202.8000**
Wolfson Transfer Center: **904.202.KIDS**

Lucy Gooding Children's Neurosurgery Center

836 Prudential Drive, Suite 1205
Jacksonville, Florida 32207
Appointments: **904.633.0780**

Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville

Division of Neurology
807 Children's Way
Jacksonville, Florida 32207
Appointments: **904.697.3600**

UF Health Pediatric Multispecialty Center - Prudential

841 Prudential Drive, Suite 1900
Jacksonville, Florida 32207
Appointments: **904.633.0920**

Neurosurgery Telemedicine Clinic Locations

Wolfson Children's at Southeast Georgia Health System

3025 Shrine Road, Suite 350
Brunswick, Georgia 31520
General Information: **912.466.7230**
Appointments: **904.633.0780**

Tallahassee Neurological Clinic

Azalea Building
1401 Centerville Road, Suite 300
Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Appointments: **904.633.0780**



WolfsonConnect

Winter 2020 - Issue 3

We hope you enjoy this newsletter and welcome your feedback and suggestions for future content. Email our Wolfson Connect Editorial Board at ConnectToWolfson@bmcjax.com.

Wolfson Children's Hospital of Jacksonville brings world-class pediatric care close to home for Florida, Georgia and Alabama families. As the only full-service tertiary hospital for children in the region, we provide care for the full spectrum of pediatric conditions — ranging from the most common to the rare and medically complex — in a family-centered environment designed around children's unique needs.



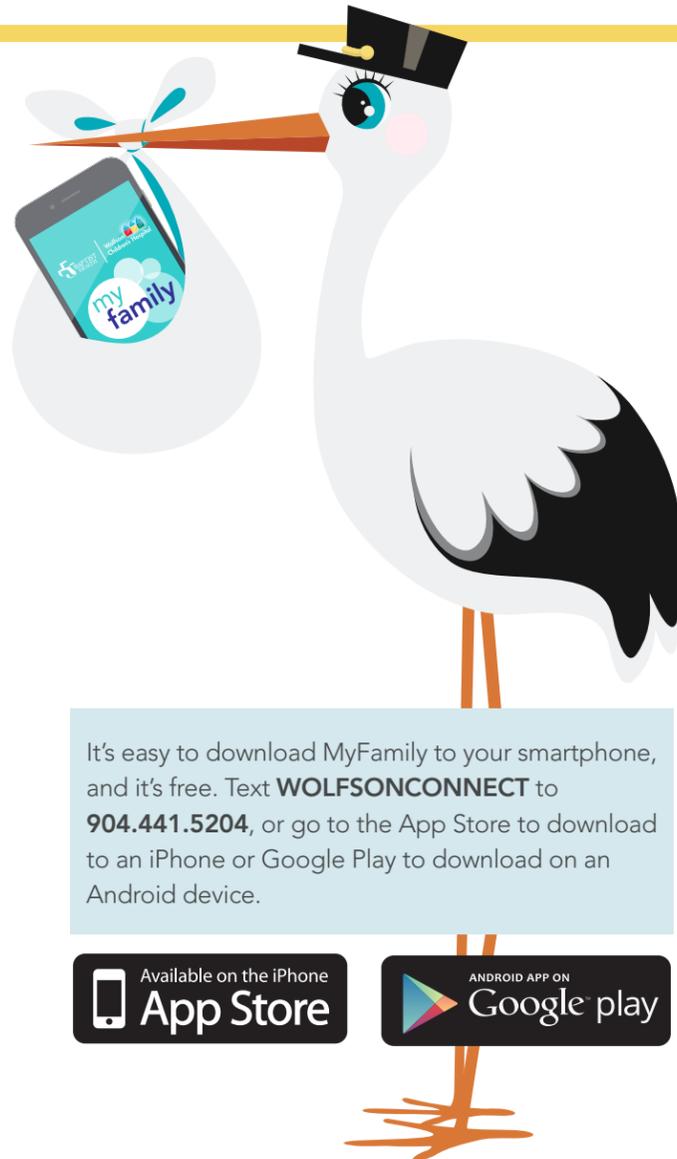
An app is born!

Baptist Health and Wolfson Children's Hospital introduce MyFamily, a customized pregnancy and parenting app designed with parents in mind. The app is full of articles and information on growing a healthy family and includes tools to help busy parents keep track of it all. MyFamily's core content is developed and reviewed according to rigorous standards that are validated by U.S. national, evidence-based clinical guidelines, including those set by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Value for Your Practice

- Reduce the time needed for answering common questions that all new parents have, increasing operational efficiency and patient satisfaction
- Drive informed decision-making and self-care, supporting early childhood development and growth goals
- Enable digitization of patient entered data collection through in-app tools and surveys
- Support clinical care with personalized information

Need assistance? We are here to help. Contact the Wolfson Children's Business Development Team at **904.202.4980** or email ConnectToWolfson@bmcjax.com.



It's easy to download MyFamily to your smartphone, and it's free. Text **WOLFSONCONNECT** to **904.441.5204**, or go to the App Store to download to an iPhone or Google Play to download on an Android device.



Wolfson Children's Neurosurgery Clinics now available in Brunswick and Tallahassee

The new Wolfson Children's Neurosurgery Telemedicine Clinics eliminate geographic obstacles to world-class care by allowing families and care teams in South Georgia and North Florida to consult directly with top-ranked pediatric neurosurgeons from a setting close to home. Travel times are more convenient and cost-effective for families, while making it possible for patients to access needed specialty care and adhere to recommended care plans.

Using HIPAA-compliant, state-of-the-art digital technology, patients, families, nurses and physicians at the Neurosurgery Telemedicine Clinics connect via videoconference to a pediatric neurosurgeon at Wolfson Children's in Jacksonville. Together, the families, physicians and care teams collaborate to evaluate the patient and determine the next steps in care. Advanced technology allows the consulting neurosurgeons to access existing diagnostic images for each patient to help ensure a thorough evaluation and accurate diagnosis.

Our Wolfson Children's Neurosurgery Telemedicine Clinics in Tallahassee and Brunswick offer initial evaluations, pre-surgical consultations, and follow-up visits for a wide range of neurosurgical conditions.

Wolfson Children's Hospital is consistently ranked as one of U.S. News & World Report's Best Children's Hospitals in Neurology and Neurosurgery. Together with



our neurosurgery partner, the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville, we have been providing pediatric neurosurgery telemedicine consults since 2011.

If you have a patient who may benefit from our Neurosurgery Telemedicine Clinics, please call us or fax our referral office:

Office: 904.633.0780 • Fax: 904.633.0781

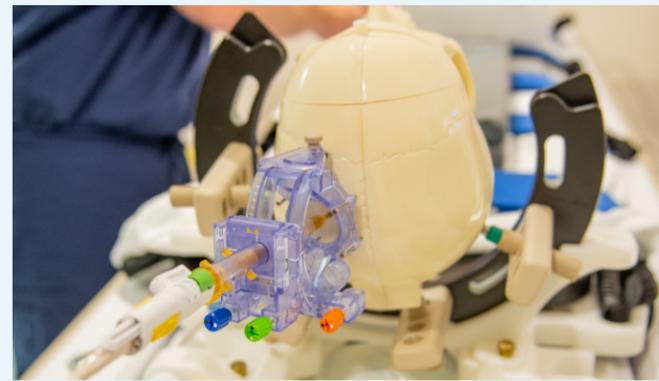
Visit wolfsonchildrens.com/neuro for more information on our services.



Tiny incision, huge impact

Pediatric neurosurgeons at Wolfson Children's Hospital of Jacksonville now have a revolutionary, minimally-invasive option to treat patients suffering from uncontrolled epilepsy or deep brain tumors. The Monteris NeuroBlate® System allows precise and maximal ablation for brain tumors and lesions that are difficult to approach via traditional methods and without the invasiveness of a craniotomy or open neurosurgical procedure.

Using MRI-guided laser energy, lethal heat is precisely applied in controlled amounts to unwanted tissue and requires only a small incision - comparable to the diameter



of a pencil - needing simply one to two stitches to close. The combined precision of real-time MRI guidance and continuous temperature monitoring of nearby healthy tissue lessens the likelihood of impact to essential functions like speech, vision and muscle control while allowing diseased tissue to effectively be reduced or removed.

While hundreds of patients have successfully undergone treatment, the NeuroBlate system is carefully selected by the neurosurgery team for use on appropriate patients and does not replace the requirement for open craniotomy or other neurosurgical procedures in specific patient types. Rather it provides a new option for children who can most benefit from the innovative approach and avoid invasive neurosurgery procedures whenever possible.

If you have a patient who could benefit from consultation with the world-class neurosurgery team at Wolfson Children's Hospital, please let us know:

Neurosurgery Referrals: 904.633.0780

Fax: 904.633.0781

Visit wolfsonchildrens.com/neuro for more information on our services.

Wolfson Children's named among best children's hospitals

Wolfson Children's Hospital of Jacksonville has once again been named by The Leapfrog Group as one of its Top Children's Hospitals for 2019. This national recognition for quality and patient safety was only awarded to 10 children's hospitals in the U.S. and only three in Florida.

In addition, this past summer Wolfson Children's was ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the 50 Best Children's Hospitals for Pediatric Cancer and Pediatric Neurology & Neurosurgery.

Why do quality rankings matter? Visit wolfsonchildrens.com/about/best-childrens-hospital to learn the methodology behind the numbers and understand what they can mean for you, your patients and their families.



Need assistance for your office or patients? We are here to help. The Wolfson Children's Business Development Team is your dedicated resource to support all aspects of accessing and navigating the Wolfson Children's Hospital System. Call us at 904.202.4980 or email ConnectToWolfson@bmcjax.com.



When Miriam Simmons looks at her 9-month-old daughter, Mya, she imagines one thing that seems so simple. "I can't wait to hear her speak," Simmons said. "After all she's been through, I can't wait to hear what thoughts she has."

Change of plans

If Mya could talk, she'd tell you about the journey that began weeks before she was born. At a 30-week ultrasound, Simmons, who then lived in Tallahassee, was told her baby had a mass on her brain, which was later diagnosed as hemimegalencephaly, a disorder that causes one half of the brain to be larger than the other, leading to seizures.

Mya was born on October 1, 2018, and almost immediately started seizing. She was promptly transported via Kids Kare Mobile ICU to Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville and directly admitted to the high-level Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, where she remained for about two weeks.

But problems continued after Mya was discharged. "She was having these little episodes and I couldn't tell what they were," Simmons said. "When we came back to Wolfson Children's for a follow-up appointment, they did another EEG. They said it looked like seizures."

Two conditions, one baby girl

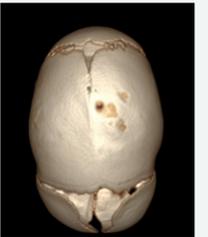
Alexandra Beier, DO, pediatric neurosurgeon with the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville and neurosurgical director of Wolfson Children's Pediatric Epilepsy Program, said that because seizures caused by hemimegalencephaly are unresponsive to medication, surgery is often necessary.

"The surgery is called a hemispherotomy," said Dr. Beier. "The goal is for the abnormal brain where seizures are arising from to be physically disconnected from the brain that is not having seizures," Dr. Beier said. "Therefore the abnormal brain may still have abnormal activity, but it can't

affect the healthy brain because it's no longer connected."

Further complicating Mya's care plan was the discovery that she also had craniosynostosis, the premature fusion of one or more of the sutures (growth plates) in the skull.

"In addition to the progressive head shape abnormality and impairment of normal brain growth that occurs over time, patients with craniosynostosis are at risk for developing



symptoms of increased intracranial pressure such as headaches, visual impairment and nausea," said Nathan Ranalli, MD, pediatric neurosurgeon with the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville and neurosurgical director of Wolfson Children's Craniofacial, Spasticity and Brachial Plexus Programs.

A surgical first

The solution would be a revolutionary set of surgeries never before performed simultaneously at Wolfson Children's.

On April 18, 2019, during more than 13 hours of surgery, Dr. Ranalli addressed the craniosynostosis by removing bone at the top of the skull where the sagittal suture, which runs through the center of the skull from front to back, had prematurely closed. Then, Dr. Beier performed a peri-insular hemispherotomy to disconnect the left half of the brain from the right.

Mya was able to go home after a weeklong stay in the PICU and the Neuroscience Unit at Wolfson Children's. She has been seizure-free since surgery.

"She's able to finally hold her head up and do things that she wasn't able to do before," Simmons said. "She laughs at everything, she's so happy."

"This is an example of an extremely rare clinical scenario involving a patient with complex neurosurgical diagnoses that we were fortunately able to successfully manage through a collaborative, team-oriented approach here at Wolfson Children's Hospital," Dr. Ranalli added.

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Neurosurgery Referrals: 904.633.0780

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