

**Title: Children's Hospital of Los Angeles**

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**ABSTRACT BODY:**

From a modest beginning as a small, two-story clapboard house, Children's Hospital Los Angeles has become one of the world's top pediatric facilities. Today's Children's Hospital Los Angeles, affiliated with the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, provides medical care for over 12,000 hospital admissions, 250,000 outpatients, and 55,000 emergency department visits annually. The spectrum of clinical care delivered by the institution is broad and encompasses everything from outpatient well-child visits to neonatal, pediatric, and cardiothoracic intensive care. The Department of Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine has been an integral part of the institution since its establishment in the early 1900s. Caring for children, training pediatric anesthesiologists, and preparing practitioners of pediatric anesthesia has been the primary charge of the department for over 50 years. Children's Hospital Los Angeles has been the training center for many of the pediatric anesthesiologists that populate the Western United States and Pacific Rim. The department has expanded its coverage from the traditional operative setting to include acute and chronic pain management, a perioperative consultation service, radiological, and critical care services. Anesthetic services are provided for all major surgical subspecialties including cardiothoracic, neurosurgical, orthopedic, and plastic surgery. The department is currently comprised of 26 faculty and 6 pediatric anesthesia fellows, and is responsible for training over 100 anesthesia residents annually, as well as rotating student registered nurse anesthetist trainees. The trainee's clinical experience is broad, drawing from the 17,680 anesthetics provided annually, and includes a comprehensive educational curriculum with emphasis on leadership training, planning, and problem solving. The department's acute inpatient pain service provides daily comprehensive pain management to hospitalized children, while the outpatient chronic pain clinic services the largest population of pediatric patients in the State with complex and chronic pain related issues. Continuing medical education and research are also longstanding departmental goals. The Department of Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine currently has over 50 active research protocols and more than a dozen in various stages of development. The "Clinical Conference in Pediatric Anesthesiology," hosted by the Department of Anesthesiology Critical Care Medicine, is the oldest, continual annual conference in pediatric anesthesiology. The Virtual Pediatric Intensive Care Unit is a project that explores the use of telemedicine as a means of increasing a critically ill child's access to medical care.