The Down Syndrome Program provides care for infants, children, adolescents and adults with Down syndrome. We integrate state-of-the-art resources with compassionate, comprehensive care. National experts from Massachusetts General Hospital, MassGeneral Hospital for Children and Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary work together to provide care for people with Down syndrome.

**Age-Appropriate Care**

Our Down Syndrome Program has four distinct clinics to ensure that people with Down syndrome receive specialty care for their age group:

- **Prenatal Services**
  We offer consultations in a private setting for expectant parents who have received a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome.

- **Infant and Toddler Clinic (ages birth-5 years)**
  Families will be educated about Down syndrome and receive comprehensive support for their child’s early needs.

- **Child Clinic (ages 5-13 years)**
  The health care of each child will be maximized so that he/she can achieve successes during school-aged years.

- **Adolescent and Young Adult Clinic (ages 13-21 years)**
  Families and youth will be supported and educated about transition planning. The goal is for your child to be prepared for adulthood and as engaged in their care, as possible.

- **Adult Clinic (ages 21 years and older)**
  Adults will be supported to lead healthy lives marked by meaningful engagements with their communities.

**Appointments**

Our multidisciplinary approach includes:

- • physicians
- • a nutritionist
- • a social worker
- • a program manager
- • a resource specialist
- • physical therapist
- • occupational therapist
- • speech therapist
- • psychologist
- • audiologist
- • ophthalmologist
- • dentist

Specialists for each age group will be available to meet the unique health care needs of individuals with Down syndrome as needed. These specialists include:

We also work closely with all of the other departments and can make specific referrals, as needed.

For more information or to request an appointment, please call 617-643-8912 or visit our website at massgeneral.org/downsyndrome
Down Syndrome Program

Physicians

**DIRECTOR:** Brian Skotko, MD, MPP. a board-certified medical geneticist, has dedicated his professional energies toward children with cognitive and developmental disabilities. In 2001, he co-authored the national award-winning book, *Common Threads: Celebrating Life with Down Syndrome* and, most recently, *Fasten Your Seatbelt: A Crash Course on Down Syndrome for Brothers and Sisters*. He is a graduate of Duke University, Harvard Medical School and Harvard Kennedy School. Dr. Skotko received the Christian Pueschel Memorial Research Award for his pioneering research on how physicians deliver a diagnosis of Down syndrome to new and expectant parents. He has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The L.A. Times*, NPR’s “On Point” and ABC’s “Good Morning America.” Dr. Skotko serves on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress and the Band of Angels Foundation. He further serves on the Professional Advisory Council to the National Down Syndrome Congress. He has a sister, Kristin, who has Down syndrome.

**FOUNDER:** Jose C. Florez, MD, PhD. is a Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, an Institute Member at the Broad Institute, and a board-certified internist/endocrinologist who founded the Down Syndrome Program at the Massachusetts General Hospital. He completed his residency and fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital, and has additional training in neurology. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors and the Professional Advisory Council of the National Down Syndrome Congress, the Clinical Advisory Board of the National Down Syndrome Society, and the Board of Directors and the Medical and Scientific Advisory Council of the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress. He was the 2001 recipient of the National Down Syndrome Congress Christian Pueschel Memorial Award. He conducts active research on the genetics of type 2 diabetes, for which President Obama awarded him the 2010 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the United States government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers. His sister Miriam, who lives in Spain and was herself the winner of the 2008 National Down Syndrome Congress Christian Pueschel Memorial Citizen Award, has Down syndrome.

**Nicolas M. Oreskovic, MD, MPH.** is an internist and pediatrician, who has focused his career on better understanding and caring for patients with lifelong chronic diseases. He is the Medical Director for the Integrated Care Management Program at Massachusetts General Hospital, a program that coordinates care for adults with multiple complex medical conditions. Dr. Oreskovic received his bachelor’s degree from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, attended medical school at The University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in Rochester, New York, trained in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, completed a fellowship in Health Services Research at Harvard Medical School, and earned a Masters in Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health. In addition to providing clinical care, he also conducts research on chronic disease prevention, with a focus on studying health behaviors that impact chronic disease. He has authored over thirty peer-reviewed scientific publications, has presented at local, national, and international conferences, and has received public and private funding for his research from the National Institutes of Health, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation, Autism Treatment Network, and the Noonan Foundation. In addition to his role at the MassGeneral Down Syndrome Program, Dr. Oreskovic spends time as a primary care physician at MGH Revere HealthCare Center where he cares for both adults and children.

**Stephanie L. Santoro, MD.** a board-certified pediatrician / clinical geneticist and an Assistant in Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, has focused her career on improving medical care for individuals with Down syndrome through quality improvement techniques and established guidelines. She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She completed a five-year combined pediatrics/medical genetics residency at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Santoro has been invited to speak locally, regionally and nationally on topics including: medical care for Down syndrome, best practice in delivering a diagnosis of Down syndrome and EHR integration of guidelines. She conducts research focused on aspects of health in Down syndrome, adherence to the American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines and successful methods to improve adherence. During her time in Columbus, OH, she helped re-launch the adult Down syndrome clinic at Ohio State University, developed a genetics presence at the Nationwide Children’s Hospital Down syndrome clinic and worked with the clinic teams to make improvements to those clinics. Dr. Santoro has served on the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati’s health advisory board, the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio’s governing board and founded the medical advisory committee.

**Other Team Members Include:**
- Amy Torres, BS, Program Manager
- Clara Cottrell, MSW, LICSW, Social Worker
- Dominica Nichols, PhD, RD, LDN, Dietitian
- Helen Weiner, MS, LICSW, Advocacy Advisor
- Gretchen Timmell, MEd, Educational Advocate
- Cynthia Moore, PhD, Psychologist
- Margaret Pulsifer, PhD, Neuropsychologist
- Julie Grieco, PsyD, Neuropsychologist
- Karen J. (Kay) Seligsohn, PhD, Neuropsychologist
- Michelle Palumbo, MD, Psychiatrist
- Ben Majewski, Resource Specialist
- Zeljana Causevic, Patient Services Coordinator
- Princess Fenton, Patient Services Coordinator
- Physical Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Speech-Language Therapists

For more information about the Down Syndrome Program, visit massgeneral.org/downsyndrome.

To schedule an appointment, call 617-643-8912 or email downsyndrome@partners.org.

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