Fetal Center
at Vanderbilt
Parents and referring providers from across the nation turn to the Fetal Center at Vanderbilt when they have concerns for the unborn child. As a comprehensive fetal diagnosis, therapy and surgery center in Nashville, Tennessee, we are committed to providing mothers and babies with highly personalized and specialized care.

Experts in Neonatology, Pediatric Surgery and Maternal-Fetal Medicine form the foundation of the multidisciplinary Fetal Center at Vanderbilt. Mothers and babies referred to the Fetal Center undergo extensive screening, monitoring and possibly surgery, either in-utero or after a baby is born. Our specialists include experts in both women’s and children’s healthcare, and can treat maternal and fetal concerns before, during and after birth. In addition, in a truly unique collaboration, the Fetal Center at Vanderbilt coordinates all consultations with appropriate specialists in one setting, making this stressful time more convenient and efficient. Our full team of specialists includes experts from the fields of:

- Cleft and Craniofacial
- Diagnostic Imaging
- High-Risk Obstetrics
- Neonatology
- Palliative Care
- Pediatric Cardiology
- Pediatric Neurosurgery
- Pediatric Orthopaedics
- Pediatric Otolaryngology
- Pediatric Plastic Surgery
- Pediatric Surgery
- Pediatric Urology
- Prenatal Genetic Counseling
- Social Work
Why Choose the Fetal Center at Vanderbilt

Our experienced team of maternal-fetal medicine, neonatal and pediatric surgery specialists care for expectant mothers and babies at risk for or born with congenital birth defects or abnormalities.

Collaboration
We collaborate with patients’ primary obstetric providers by regularly sharing updates, images and test results. This results in patients receiving coordinated, co-managed care close to home throughout their pregnancy. In rural areas, we can utilize telehealth to help our patients access services.

Family-Centered Care
Families are a significant part of the decision-making team. Patients receive a customized evaluation in a single setting – no traveling between sites to see different specialists on different days.

Pioneers in Fetal Surgery
We have performed more than 300 fetal surgeries, giving us expertise unmatched by most fetal centers. Vanderbilt pioneered the fetal repair of myelomeningocele, a type of spina bifida, in 1997. Today we are known worldwide for this surgery.

Advanced Newborn Care
Depending on the diagnosis, it is possible newborn babies will be cared for in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit after delivery. Our NICU provides many services unavailable elsewhere in our region.
Follow-Up Care
The Fetal Center at Vanderbilt helps coordinate post-natal care for mother and baby with appropriate specialists. Sometimes surgeries or additional procedures must be performed after delivery, and we see patients through the process and help them get to know Children’s Hospital. The same surgeons and specialists that care for newborns often take care of that child for years to come. We are the foundation of lifelong caregiver relationships.

Research and Innovation
We are actively involved in multicenter research projects advancing the understanding and treatment of fetal congenital heart disease and fetal arrhythmias, including collaborative research projects through the Fetal Heart Society and the North American Fetal Therapy Network. We have ongoing research efforts working to optimize feeding and nutrition in newborns requiring heart surgery.
- Abdominal mass
- Agenesis of the corpus callosum
- Ambiguous genitalia
- Amniotic bands/constriction rings
- Anencephaly
- Anhydramnios/oligohydramnios
- Aortic stenosis
- Arachnoid cyst
- Atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD)
- Bowel dilation
- Brain mass (large)
- Bronchopulmonary sequestration (BPS)
- Chorioangioma
- Chromosome abnormalities
- Cleft lip/palate
- Clubfoot
- Coarctation of the aorta
- Common arterial trunk (truncus arteriosus)
- Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
- Congenital heart defects (CHD)
- Congenital high airway obstruction (CHAOS)
- Congenital pulmonary airway malformation (C-PAM)
- Congenitally corrected transposition of the great arteries (CCTGA)
- Conjoined twins
- Craniostenosis
- Cystic hygroma
- Dandy Walker malformation or variant
- Double inlet ventricle
- Double outlet right ventricle (DORV)
- Ductal constriction
- Duodenal atresia
- Duplex system
- Echogenic bowel
- Encephalocele
- Esophageal atresia
- Exstrophy (bladder and cloacal)
- Fetal anemia
- Fetal skeletal dysplasia/dwarfing conditions
- Fetal thrombocytopenia
- Foramen ovale restriction
- Gastrochisis
- Hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn (HDFN)
- Heterotaxy syndromes
- Holoprosencephaly
- Hydrocephalus
- Hydronephrosis
- Hypoplastic left heart syndrome (HLHS)
- Hypoplastic right heart syndrome
- Intestinal atresia
- Intestinal obstruction
- Intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR)/fetal growth restriction (FGR)
- Limb differences
- Lymphangioma
- Mitral valve disease
- Multi/dysplastic kidney (MCDK)
- Multicystic kidney (ADPKD)
- Myelomeningocele
- Neck mass
- Omphalocele
- Pericardial effusion
- Persistent left superior vena cava (PLSVC)
- Pleural effusion/Empyema
- Polydactyly
- Prune belly syndrome
- Pulmonary stenosis
- Pylectasis
- Renal agenesis
- Rhabdomyoma
- Sacrococcygeal teratoma
- Schizencephaly
- Spina Bifida
- TE fistula
- Teratomas
- Tetralogy of Fallot
- Total anomalous pulmonary venous return
- Tracheoesophageal fistula
- Transposition of the great arteries (TGA)
- Tricuspid atresia
- Tricuspid valve disease (including tricuspid atresia and Ebsteins Anomaly)
- Truncus arteriosus
- Urinary tract obstruction
- Vascular rings
- Ventricular septal defect (VSD)
- Ventriloculomegaly
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