Single Ventricle Center of Excellence: Comprehensive Fetal Roadmap

The Single Ventricle Center of Excellence is a dedicated team of specialized cardiologists, advanced practice providers, a nurse coordinator and an administrator. Prior to your baby’s birth, our team will partner with The Chicago Institute for Fetal Health, Maternal-Fetal Medicine/OBGYNs, Fetal Cardiology, Cardiac Intensive Care, Neonatology, Cardiovascular Surgery, Social Work, Genetics, Palliative Care and other specialties as needed to provide the most comprehensive care to you and baby.

During pregnancy, our multidisciplinary team will meet with your family multiple times in order to review the diagnosis, plan for delivery, prepare for the newborn hospitalization and surgery, and help you better understand the long term outcomes. Once your baby is born, we will work with your pediatrician and referring cardiologist to arrange for a seamless transition to the outpatient setting and to guide your family through a lifelong journey with congenital heart disease. Welcoming a newborn with or without congenital heart disease is a life-changing event for families. Our team is here to support you every step of the way.

Introductory Consult
This will be your first visit with a Lurie Children’s cardiologist to discuss your diagnosis and answer any questions you may have.

Postnatal Action Planning Consult
During this visit you will meet with our multidisciplinary team, including Neonatology, to discuss plans for delivery and your baby’s newborn hospitalization. We will also take you on a tour of the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU). At this appointment we will review:
  • Your diagnosis
  • Your delivery plan
  • The plan for your baby before their first operation
  • The plan for your baby after their first operation
  • Potential feeding and growth challenges

Long-Term Care Consult
During this visit you will meet with our multidisciplinary team, including Palliative Care, to discuss the lifelong care and decisions you will make for your child. At this appointment we will review:
  • Neurodevelopmental challenges
  • Quality of life
  • Tele-Interstage Home Monitoring Program
  • Expectations for baby’s first discharge
  • Family and your support system
  • Palliative care and decision making

Additional Services (as needed)
  • Neurodevelopmental Program
  • Child Life
  • Electrophysiology
  • Interventional Cardiology
  • Heart Transplantation
  • Other subspecialties

Prior to delivery, your main point of contact will be our fetal nurse coordinator, who can be reached at 1.866.FETAL24 (1.866.338.2524).

For more information please visit luriechildrens.org/singleventricle and luriechildrens.org/fetalcardiology.