The Pediatric Program at Marianjoy

Celebrating Milestones, One Step at a Time
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All parents share the same hope for their children—that they will play, grow and learn new skills. At Marianjoy, we couldn’t agree more. Individualized therapy programs, combined with Marianjoy’s positive and encouraging environment, help children flourish and reach their highest potential.

Our pediatric therapists are a highly skilled, experienced group of clinicians who have expertise in a variety of specialty areas, and all levels of care — inpatient, outpatient and day rehabilitation. Many of our therapists are also Early Intervention certified.

The pediatric team is led by award-winning, board-certified pediatric physiatrist, Dr. Mary Keen. In her role as the team’s coordinator, Dr. Keen oversees the treatment plans of our youngest patients and attends weekly team meetings to share each patient’s progress and goals.

Our therapists, nurses, and clinicians have immediate access to Dr. Keen’s expertise when questions or concerns arise.

Many top pediatric physicians and specialists refer their patients to the Marianjoy Pediatric Program—and with good reason. In addition to our outstanding staff and a variety of levels of care, we also offer other highly specialized services including video swallowing assessments, an orthotic clinic, serial casting, constraint-induced therapy, and spasticity management which includes baclofen pumps and botox injections. Additional services include pool therapy and social groups.

Dr. Mary Keen
Board Certified Physiatrist in physical medicine and rehabilitation, pediatric medicine, pediatric rehabilitation, and neurodevelopmental pediatrics.
Many children begin their journey with Marianjoy at a very young age. Our therapists provide progressive rehabilitation as the needs of the child evolve.

Marianjoy offers different levels of care to meet the continuing needs of our pediatric patients.

Inpatient Rehabilitation Program
- Intensive hospital-based pediatric rehabilitation program with a minimum of three hours of therapy per day
- 24 hour nursing care
- Medical oversight provided by a Marianjoy Medical Group pediatric physicians specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation

Day Rehabilitation Program
- Outpatient program designed for children requiring a combination of physical, occupational and/or speech-language therapies
- Access to psychology and case management services
- Medical oversight provided by a Marianjoy Medical Group physician

Outpatient Rehabilitation Therapy
- For children who require one particular therapy or several therapies to improve function and independence
- Therapies available include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, neuropsychology and specialty clinics
- Oversight by a Marianjoy Medical Group pediatric physician is available

Community Care Groups
- For children who are working on generalizing their skills in a group setting under the supervision of a skilled therapist
- Community Care Groups better prepare the child for participation in school and community-based activities

The Pediatric Treatment Team

Upon admission into Marianjoy’s pediatric program, each child is evaluated to determine the therapy services required and to set individual goals.

Your child’s pediatric team may include a physical therapist, occupational therapist, and speech-language pathologist. A case manager may also be assigned to the team to help with acquiring specialized equipment, identifying resources, and ensuring a smooth transition back to school. A pediatric neuropsychologist is also available to perform neuropsychological assessments and diagnose conditions such as autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, learning disabilities, and provide guidance regarding brain injuries and other developmental conditions.

Using multi- and interdisciplinary approaches, the Marianjoy pediatric team actively engages children in their therapy sessions, promoting motivation, retention of information, and positive outcomes. For example, therapists from different disciplines may collaborate to provide your child with activities or interventions that reinforce therapies learned in other sessions.

At Marianjoy we recognize that family involvement is critical to a child’s progress and we welcome and integrate the family’s input into the treatment plan. Family education is an important part of helping a child reach his/her goals. The Marianjoy team keeps the family informed and offers home-based exercise programs to help the child continue to improve outside of therapy sessions.

“I have found so much more from Marianjoy and its staff than I ever expected to find... They treat us like we’re family. Everyone is personable and so very patient...thank you for being such a wonderful facility and for helping so many people.”

Nicole Frisone,
Parent

Clinical Expertise in a Variety of Areas
- ADHD
- Articulation Disorders
- Asperger’s Disorder
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Balance and Dizziness Issues
- Botox and Baclofen Pump Management
- Brain Injury
- Cerebral Palsy
- Complex regional pain syndromes
- Developmental Delay
- Down Syndrome
- Feeding and Swallowing Disorders
- Genetic Disorders
- Language Disorders
- Muscle, Bone and Ligament Weakness
- Muscle Tone Issues
- Muscular dystrophies and myopathies
- Neurological Conditions
- Oral-Motor Disorders
- Orthopedic Conditions
- Pervasive Developmental Disorder
- Phenological Disorders
- Post Surgical Conditions
- Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Pulmonary and Respiratory Conditions
- Seizure Disorders
- Sensory Feeding Difficulties
- Sensory Integration Dysfunction
- Speech Language Disorders
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Spina Bifida
- Splinting and Casting Services (including spasticity management and constraint-induced casting)
- Sports-related Injuries
- Stroke
- Voice Disorders (including vocal nodules, resonance disorders, and vocal paralysis)
- Vision and Visual Rehabilitation (related to occupational therapy)
Physical Therapy
Increasing Function and Mobility to Improve Quality of Life

Marianjoy’s pediatric physical therapy is designed to help children improve and increase functionality, mobility, balance, and movement.

After assessing the child’s physical developmental level, Marianjoy therapists combine their knowledge of the musculoskeletal system and child development to design an individualized treatment program. Using a variety of therapy techniques, exercise, and specially designed equipment, a treatment plan is created that is motivational and highly beneficial to the child and family.

THERAPY TECHNIQUES
Marianjoy pediatric therapists have training in a variety of clinically effective treatments to improve a child’s functional mobility. Some examples include:

Muscle Strengthening
After evaluating and identifying areas of weakness in a child’s limbs, purposeful movement and exercises are used to strengthen specific muscle groups.

Splinting and Casting
Splinting and casting can help stretch muscles over the course of several weeks. Therapists monitor the improvement in muscle flexibility and range of motion until optimal positioning is achieved.

Aquatic Therapy
Some children receive aquatic therapy in our warm therapeutic pool to improve strength and gross motor skills in a gravity-lessened environment.

Electrical Stimulation
This treatment uses a low voltage input at a comfortable level of intensity to stimulate muscle contraction and encourage muscle strengthening and increase blood flow.

SPECIALTY CLINICS FOR CHILDREN

Prosthetic and Orthotic Clinic
An orthotist, physician, and therapists work together to determine the best orthotic device for your child including approaches such as Tuned Orthotics.

Splinting and Casting
This technique is used to facilitate posture and improve balance and stability, while increasing muscle strength and positioning.

Kinesiotaping™

Gait Clinic
Specialized therapists assess your child’s walking which may include video assessment to determine appropriate interventions, such as intensive gait training.

Wheelchair and Mobility Center
In Marianjoy’s Wheelchair and Mobility Center, specialized therapists evaluate a child’s specific seating, positioning, mobility or home environment needs. These therapists interface with equipment manufacturers and assist families with obtaining functional equipment.

Early Intervention Aquatic Program
Aquatic intervention is available for children enrolled in the Early Intervention Program. Aquatic therapy can be done individually or in a group setting. A referral by the child’s Early Intervention Team is required.

“I can literally say I would not be here without the care, inspiration, and faith that these incredible individuals at Marianjoy have lent to me.”

Amanda Fowler,
Former Marianjoy Patient,
Marianjoy Scholar
Marianjoy pediatric occupational therapists measure each child’s abilities, developmental level, and functional performance. A child may have difficulty completing self-care tasks, such as feeding, hygiene, and dressing at an age-appropriate level. A child may also lack developmentally appropriate play skills or have difficulty in school due to visual or fine motor issues. Occupational therapists work with each child to develop needed skills and teach strategies to achieve greater independence.

**COMMONLY TREATED CONDITIONS**

**Developmental Delay**
Infants and young children often have delays in fine motor, gross motor, and visual motor skills. Working with the family and caregivers, Marianjoy occupational therapists help children to improve skills they already have while helping to develop new ones.

**Sensory Processing**
Many children have difficulty interpreting the information they receive through their senses as well as from within their own bodies (body position and movement). This can lead to difficult behaviors, inability to tolerate certain environments, difficulty wearing certain clothing or eating certain foods. Therapists work to understand and treat sensory needs to improve interactions in the environment.

**Neurologic Impairment**
For children who have sustained a brain or nerve injury, a variety of treatment techniques are used to improve function. These include casting, splinting, therapeutic taping, electrical stimulation, and constraint-induced movement therapy.

**Visual Impairment**
Children with visual deficits have difficulty following a moving object, perceiving shapes and letters, seeing clearly, using both eyes together, and coordinating eye movement with hand movement. Therapy goals include improving eye-hand coordination in order to improve handwriting, reading skills, and body coordination. Therapists frequently consult with a developmental optometrist who is available for evaluation and treatment of visual deficits.

**Fine Motor Skills**
Children who have difficulty with hand strength, precision, and coordination often have difficulty managing buttons, tying their shoes, picking up small objects, cutting, and writing. Therapies are designed to improve hand strength, manipulative skills, and coordination.

**Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule Testing (ADOS)**
ADOS is considered the gold standard instrument for diagnosing and assessing Autism Spectrum Disorders across age groups, developmental levels, and language skills. Marianjoy pediatric therapists are certified in administering the ADOS testing modules based on an individual’s expressive language skills and chronological age. If test results confirm a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, the Marianjoy therapists work with the patient’s physician in determining the best course of treatment, which may include individualized physical, occupational, speech, and behavioral therapy programs.

**Pediatric speech-language pathologists** evaluate and treat a variety of speech, language, swallowing, and feeding disorders in children. Therapy utilizes a pragmatic approach and encourages children to use their communication and reasoning skills in functional settings. Augmentative and alternative communication systems, both low and high tech tools, may also help to enhance a child’s ability to communicate.

**Commonly Treated Diagnosis**

**Speech Production Deficits**
The goal is to improve speech clarity by targeting articulation, volume, rate, fluency, intonation, resonance, and vocal quality. One-on-one therapy activities and the incorporation of play is used to increase a child’s participation.

**Language Disorders**
Therapy focuses on auditory and reading comprehension and verbal and written formulation through exercises, games, and functional social and academic tasks.

**Cognitive-Communication Devices**
By improving orientation, memory, attention and concentration, sequencing, problem-solving, reasoning and internal organization, children can participate more fully and successfully in play, school, and community environments.

**Speech-Language Pathology: Advancing Communication and Feeding-Swallowing Skills**

**Oral-Motor Disorder**
Repetitive oral exercises are used to increase the coordination, strength and range of motion in the muscles of the face, lips and tongue. These movements are then incorporated into speech and/or eating activities.

**For more information on Marianjoy’s pediatric therapy services, please call 630-909-7155.**
Neuropsychology

Does my child need a neuropsychological assessment?

Children who are having difficulty in school with reading or math, experiencing attention problems, or are exhibiting problematic behavior, can often benefit from a neuropsychological assessment.

Neuropsychological testing is also useful for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder or for whom such a diagnosis is suspected. Testing is also beneficial when there is evidence of developmental delay, poor social skills, or behavioral problems exhibited at home or at school.

The Assessment

While school psychologists perform assessments to determine whether a student qualifies for special education or therapies to enhance school performance, a pediatric neuropsychologist administers a specialized evaluation that is necessary to diagnose a learning or behavioral disorder based on differences in brain function.

A pediatric neuropsychological assessment typically includes an extensive battery of tests, and consultations with teachers, school personnel, parents/caregivers and private therapists. When emotional or behavioral issues are of concern, the assessment may also include classroom observation.

A pediatric neuropsychological evaluation can be used to assess the following:

- Intellectual ability
- Achievement skills including reading and mathematics
- Organization, planning, flexibility, and inhibition (executive skills)
- Attention span
- Language
- Learning and memory skills
- Specific learning strengths and weaknesses

Benefits of a Neuropsychological Assessment

Neuropsychological testing can clarify the reasons for learning difficulties while providing strategies for remediation.

For more information on Marianjoy’s neuropsychology services or testing, please call 630-909-8602.

Prescriptions for neuropsychological testing and services may be faxed to 630-909-7151.
The **Pediatric Program at Marianjoy**

For more information on Marianjoy’s Pediatric Inpatient and Outpatient programs and services, please call 630-909-8542.

For more information or to register for one of Marianjoy’s Pediatric Classes, please call 630-909-7155.