To schedule an evaluation by a pediatric neurosurgeon:
Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
352.273.6990 (O) | 352.392.8413 (F)

To transfer a neurosurgical patient, call the UF Health Shands Transfer Center:
1.800.X.TRANSFER (1.800.987.2673)

UF HEALTH NEUROSURGERY – NEUROMEDICINE HOSPITAL
1505 SW Archer Road, 1st Floor
Gainesville, FL 32608

UF HEALTH PEDIATRIC SPECIALTIES – OAKHURST
1329 SE 25th Loop, Suite 101
Ocala, FL 34471

UF HEALTH NEUROSURGERY – TALLAHASSEE
Located within the CMS Building
2390 Phillips Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308

UF HEALTH NEUROSURGERY – HALIFAX HEALTH
311 N. Clyde Morris Blvd., 5th floor
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

neurosurgery.ufl.edu/pediatrics
UFHealth.org/pediatricneurosurgery

UF Health Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery Program
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

UF Health
Neurosurgery
Shands Children’s Hospital
About our program

The pediatric epilepsy program at UF Health in Gainesville, Florida, offers children the latest and most advanced treatment options for epilepsy care.

The surgical program is led by Jason Blatt, MD, who specializes in pediatric epilepsy and oversees each child’s care plan. He works closely with S. Parrish Winesett, MD, a pediatric neurologist who has extensive experience with complex epilepsy, including presurgical evaluations and advanced EEG monitoring.

Together, Drs. Blatt and Winesett are committed to providing state-of-the-art care to improve the quality of life of our patients. The pediatric epilepsy team strives to alleviate worry and suffering and provide world-class care for children of all ages.

What to expect

The process of deciding if a child will benefit from epilepsy surgery involves extensive testing and can take several months. We need to have as much information as possible in order to choose the right surgery and do it safely.

Our pediatric epilepsy surgery team in Gainesville meets almost every week to discuss our patients and their test results. Epilepsy surgery evaluations happen in phases, and not every patient has to undergo every test.

Diagnostic procedures used to evaluate patients for epilepsy

- Electroencephalogram, or EEG, testing, which is also known as “brain wave” testing
- MRI
- Functional MRI, or fMRI
- Positron emission tomography, or PET
- PET-CT
- Single-photon emission computerized tomography, or SPECT, scan
- Magnetoencephalogram, or MEG
- Neuropsychiatric battery testing
- Wada testing
- Functional brain mapping

After testing is done, our expertly trained UF neurologists and neurosurgeons collaborate to decide if surgery should be the next phase of treatment. If it is the next step, our team will work with the patient’s family to determine a date, and surgery will be scheduled.

Robot-assisted surgery for patients with epilepsy

ROSA is a state-of-the-art surgical tool that UF Health pediatric neurosurgeons use during epilepsy operations. ROSA’s software allows exceptionally safe and precise epilepsy surgery. The ROSA system reduces surgical time by half compared to other methods and is less invasive, which means less time under anesthesia and less risk of infection.

For our comprehensive parent’s guide to epilepsy surgery, please visit neurosurgery.ufl.edu/peds-epilepsy.