

How one pediatric center expanded its expertise without expanding its staff

Nicklaus Children's Hospital + NMDPSM

The situation

NICKLAUS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PEDIATRIC BLOOD & BONE MARROW TRANSPLANT CENTER

in South Florida is a smaller pediatric center with a lean clinical team.

Without a large group of colleagues to consult with on complex cases, physicians often made difficult donor selection decisions without the depth of support available at larger centers.

A turning point

Nicklaus' dedicated team of NMDP partners began a weekly case review meeting with the physicians at Nicklaus to provide support, consultation and research-backed guidance.

The team includes Lucas Nacusi, PhD, NMDP Clinical HLA Services (CHS) partner; Hector Ortiz, clinical operations partner; and Katelyn Thilges, case manager. When a difficult case arises, an NMDP physician joins the meeting to help prioritize sources that get the patient to transplant on time.



Ossama Maher, MD,
Medical Director,
Blood and Marrow
Transplant Program,
Nicklaus Children's
Hospital

"Having the NMDP team in our weekly meetings reduces my stress enormously. I'm not making decisions alone."

What changed

Evidence-based guidance

Input from their NMDP team allows the Nicklaus team to make the best donor and cord blood unit selection decisions for their patients.

Greater clinical confidence

Access to NMDP physicians as needed gives the team a reliable sounding board for clinical consulting on complex cases.

The result: stronger support for every patient

Today, CHS, the clinical operations partner and case manager are an extension of the Nicklaus Children's transplant team. Through weekly collaboration and expert clinical consultation, the center has the support it needs to move complex cases forward with greater confidence and avoid delays in the patient's journey to transplant.

Your clinical team has a team behind it

Every NMDP Network center has a dedicated team to rely on.

If you're not sure who to reach out to, your clinical operations partner can help.