**University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)**

The University is one of three autonomous institutions within The University of Alabama System and is the only four-year, public university in the state’s largest metropolitan area. UAB spans more than 100 blocks in the city center with over 245 buildings providing over 400 acres and 18 million gross square feet of building space. UAB had a $12.1 billion economic impact on Alabama in 2022, year of most recent analysis, a 41% increase from $7.15 billion in 2016 and a 163% increase from $7.15 billion in 2008. UAB is comprised of 10 academic colleges and schools in the health sciences and academic areas. The UAB Academic Health Center includes the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Optometry, Public Health, Health Professions, the Graduate School, and the Lister Hill Library of the Health Sciences. The University’s academic campus consists of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Collat School of Business, the Schools of Education and Engineering, the Graduate School, and the Mervyn Sterne Library. The University has 244 endowed chairs/professorships. As of the fall of 2024, UAB employed over 27,000 people, had a faculty of 3,278 and had a student enrollment of over 20,000 at the undergraduate through doctoral levels.

**Heersink School of Medicine (HSOM)**

As the largest School within UAB, the Heersink School of Medicine is dedicated to the education of physicians and scientists in all of the disciplines of medicine and biomedical investigation. The HSOM provides medical education and internship opportunities for students throughout the world. Its comprehensive approach to teaching future physicians covers all facets of medicine, including medical education, research, and patient care -- delivered in one of the most technologically advanced medical facilities in the country. The school has 800 students, more than 1100 residents, and over 1600 full-time faculty in 27 academic departments. Many of UAB’s most productive, extramurally funded research centers are based in the UAB School of Medicine, including the Comprehensive Cancer Center, Comprehensive Diabetes Center, and Center for AIDS Research, and the Institute for Cancer Outcomes and Survivorship. UAB Medicine is home to the eighth largest hospital in the country, facilitating nearly 2 million patient visits annually.

**Department of Pediatrics**

The Department of Pediatrics is comprised of 19 subspecialty divisions, each with a research, educational, and clinical focus. Many new investigators receive support from local investments in research such as pilot and feasibility awards from the Children’s of Alabama Kaul Pediatric Research Institute and by the combined investments from the department and Children’s of Alabama in research infrastructure. The UAB Heersink School of Medicine pediatric clinical and educational programs are primarily located at Children’s of Alabama, located contiguous to the UAB Hospital and Women and Infants Center. The residency program consists of 72 categorical pediatric residents; three combined programs also participate in pediatric training (Internal Medicine/Pediatric, Child Neurology, and Medical Genetics/Pediatrics). The Department of Pediatrics supports 20 fellowship programs (17 ACGME and three non-ACGME programs), representing 75 pediatric fellows. Over the last fifteen years, the fellowship programs have grown from 32 to 75 fellows.

**Pediatric Research Office**

The Department of Pediatrics established the Pediatric Research Office (PRO) in 2015 to renew a commitment to the generation of new knowledge in the diagnosis, treatment, and sequelae of pediatric diseases. In the most recent reporting period (1/24-4/25), the PRO assisted investigators and their study teams with over 1,000 projects representing 430 unique users (e.g., faculty fellows, residents, etc.) and 18 of the 19 divisions in the Department of Pediatrics, plus 11 other areas with pediatric research. PRO personnel and associated partners provide assistance and consultation on intra and extramural research development and training applications, biostatistics and research design, informatics, regulatory support (IRB), data management, and the administration of the primary Child Health Research Unit.

**Child Health Research Unit (CHRU)**

The Child Health Research Unit (CHRU) is a partnership between the UAB Department of Pediatrics, Children’s of Alabama and the UAB Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS). It provides outpatient space for pediatric research to reduce barriers to the conduct of scientifically rigorous clinical and translational research. The primary CHRU opened in 2017 in a renovated, 2,547-square-foot facility on the third floor of Dearth Tower. The space includes a reception/registration area, a triage room, six well-equipped exam rooms, two conference rooms, workspace with monitors and locked storage, a lab with centrifuge and freezer for short-term storage, and an equipment storage room. A -80 freezer is available for short-term use on the seventh floor of Dearth Tower. There is also a CHRU Ancillary Unit on the seventh floor, used primarily for pulmonary research. This Unit has three exam rooms, a conference room, ECG and pulmonary equipment, refrigerated centrifuges, specimen storage, sterile hoods, a 40 x-100 x microscope, a hemocytometer, and an autoclave.

**Children's of Alabama (COA)**

Since 1911, Children’s of Alabama has provided specialized medical care for ill and injured children. Ranked among the best children’s hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, last year Children’s served patients from every county in Alabama, 46 states, and seven countries. With more than 3.5 million square feet, it is one of the largest pediatric medical facilities in the United States. Children’s offers inpatient and outpatient services at its Russell Campus on Birmingham’s historic Southside with additional specialty services provided at Children’s South, Children’s on 3rd and in Huntsville and Montgomery. Primary medical care is provided in more than a dozen communities across central Alabama. Children’s is the only health system in Alabama dedicated solely to the care and treatment of children. It is a private, not-for-profit medical center that serves as the teaching hospital for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) pediatric medicine, surgery, psychiatry, research, and residency programs. In 2024, there were over 680,000 patient visits with 16,130 patient admissions. In addition, Children’s was the busiest pediatric emergency department in the Southeast serving 73,075 children in 2024.

**Children’s Pharmacy**

The Children's of Alabama Pharmacy department is committed to excellence in the provision of pharmaceutical care including medication delivery, decisions about medication selection, dosages, routes and methods of administration, medication therapy monitoring, and the provision of other medication-related information and counseling to individual patients. The Investigational department provides services for inpatients and clinic patients. Its pediatric-trained pharmacists provide investigational drug support and drug information services to the patients and health care professionals within the health system.

Investigational (Study) Drug Policy: The pharmacy department is responsible for establishing specific procedures regarding the control and usage of medications related to clinical research to ensure the safety of research subjects. These procedures comply with UAB’s Institutional Review Board. Investigational medications require a complete order by an authorized prescriber. All investigational drugs dispensed to enrolled study patients seen at COA are stored separately from other drugs in an area of limited access and dispensed from the Pharmacy Department. All inpatient and outpatient medications are labeled as required in the procedural guidelines. The pharmacy is responsible for reviewing protocols to ensure they are in accordance with hospital policy. Pharmacists dispense investigational drugs only after receiving written confirmation that a subject has properly signed an IRB-approved informed consent and is a currently enrolled study patient either from the PI or his/her designee. Investigational drugs are dispensed only upon receipt of an order or prescription authorized by a PI and after checking if the dose is correct per protocol guidelines. Pharmacists are also responsible for maintaining accurate records, storing drugs according to manufacturer’s specifications, and disposing of unused materials or returning unused materials to the sponsor in accordance with instructions. Pharmacists also provide the identity codes for blinded investigational drugs, if authorized by the study sponsor and/or protocol if necessity demands. Upon completion of a study, the study pharmacist will dispose of or return unused materials to the sponsor in accordance with instructions from the protocol, PI, study sponsor, or Drug Enforcement Administration, as appropriate, and will store all pertinent records as deemed appropriate by designated agencies and the drug sponsor and/or sponsor representative.