Meet Our NICU Team

To contact the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) call 216-778-5918.
For all other neonatology, administrative or fellowship issues call 216-778-5946

Physicians

John J. Moore, MD
Professor, Pediatrics and Reproductive Biology, Case Western Reserve University
Head, Division of Neonatology
Attending Neonatologist

Marc F. Collin, MD
Associate Professor, Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University
Medical Director, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
Attending Neonatologist
Deepak Kumar, MD
Professor, Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University
Director, Neonatal Fellowship Program
Attending Neonatologist

Maroun J. Mhanna, MD
Professor, Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University
Attending Neonatologist and Pediatric Intensivist
Prem S Shekhawat, MBBS, M.D., FAAP
Professor of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University
Attending Neonatologist

Biju Thomas, MBBS, MRCPCH, MS, FAAP
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University
Director Pediatric Safety and Quality
Attending Neonatologist

Timur Azhibekov, MD, FAAP
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Case Western Reserve University
Attending Neonatologist
Neonatal Nutritionists

Sharon Lee Groh-Wargo, PhD, RD, LD
Professor of Pediatrics and Nutrition, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Stephanie Merlino, MS, RD, LD
Adjunct Lecturer of Nutrition, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Neonatal Nurse Practitioners

**Jennifer White, CNNP**
Contact: jwhite@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)

Education:
NNP, MS, Ohio State University
BSN Walsh University

Board Certifications: RN, Certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
Certifications: CREC, NRP Instructor

**Marie McDonnell, CNNP,** Clinical Faculty, CWRU School of Nursing
Contact: mmcdonnell@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)

Education:
BSN Ursuline College
NNP Certificate Columbus Children’s 1994
MSN Case Western Reserve University

Board Certifications: NCC
Certifications: NRP Instructor
Associations: ANN

**Sheila Gesing, CNNP,** Clinical Faculty, CWRU School of Nursing
Contact: sgesing@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)

Education:
MSN University of Akron

Board Certifications: NCC
Certifications: NRP Instructor, BLS
Associations: OAAPN, National Association of Neonatal Nurses, Academy of Neonatal Nurses
Chanel Ondecker, CNNP
Contact: condecker@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)

Education:
BSN: Ursuline College, Ohio
MSN, NNP: CWRU, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing

Board Certifications: NCC
Certifications: NRP Provider, BLS, Ohio Board of Nursing, Certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner NCC
Associations: National Association of Neonatal Nurses

Jenna Meredith, CNP, NNP-BC
Contact: jmeredith@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)

Education:
MSN, NNP East Carolina University
BSN Cleveland State University

Board Certifications: RN, NCC
Certifications: NRP Instructor, BLS
Associations: National Association of Neonatal Nursing

Karla Phipps, CNNP
Contact: khipps@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)

Education:
BSN and MSN, Case Western Reserve University

Board Certifications: NCC
Certifications: NRP instructor
Associations: NANN, Academy of Neonatal Nurses, Intravenous Nurses Society, National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners, Treasurer of the local Northern Ohio Association of Neonatal Nurses
Kristin Foote, RNC, MSN, NNP  
Contact: kfoote@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)  
Education:  
MN/MSN Case Western Reserve University  
BS Ohio Wesleyan University  
Board Certifications: RN, NCC, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner  
Certifications: NRP, BLS  
Associations: National Association of Neonatal Nursing

Julie Zupancic, MSN, NNP  
Contact: jzupancic@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)  
Education:  
NNP  
BSN Bowling Green University  
Board Certifications: RN, NCC  
Certifications: NRP Instructor

Kristin Smith-Sullivan, CNNP; Clinical Faculty, CWRU School of Nursing  
Contact: ksmith@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)  
Education:  
NNP  
BSN Kent State University  
MSN Case Western Reserve University  
Board Certifications: RN, NCC  
Certifications: NRP Instructor, BLS
Victoria Lister, CNNP  
Contact: vlister@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)  
Education:  
BSN: Mercy College of Northwest Ohio  
MSN, NNP: CWRU, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing  
Board Certifications: NCC  
Certifications: NRP Instructor, BLS, Ohio Board of Nursing, Certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner NCC  
Associations: National Association of Neonatal Nurses  

Ashley N. Traffis, APRN-CNP  
Contact: awill@metrohealth.org, 216-778-5918 (Phone), 216-778-1520 (Fax)  
Education:  
BSN: Ohio University  
MSN, NNP: East Carolina University (North Carolina)  
Board Certifications: NCC  
Certifications: NRP Instructor, BLS, Ohio Board of Nursing, Certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner NCC  
Associations: National Association of Neonatal Nurses, Academy of Neonatal Nursing
Nursing Team

Connie Eggleston, RN, BSN, MSN
Nurse Manager, NICU

Paula Jacomin, RN, BSN
Assistant Nurse Manager, NICU

Julie Medas, RN, MSN, APRN
Clinical Nurse Specialist
Administrative Team

Cassandra Smith
Neonatology Fellowship Coordinator

E-mail: rprudhoe@metrohealth.org
Phone: 216-778-5946
Fax: 216-778-3252

NICU Discharge Coordinator

Debbie Lawson, LPN
Coordinator NICU Discharge and Special Care Clinic

E-mail: dlawson@metrohealth.org
Phone: 216-778-3882
Fax: 216-778-3252