

Atrium Health Levine Children's Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital Named a Sedation Center of Excellence

Children's hospital receives national recognition for quality in pediatric sedation

MACON, Ga., Aug. 7, 2025 – When a child needs sedation as part of medical treatment, it can be scary for the child and stressful for parents. <u>Atrium Health Levine Children's Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital</u> has been designated as a Center of Excellence in Pediatric Sedation by the Society for Pediatric Sedation (SPS), offering parents and guardians peace of mind that children are receiving the best, high-quality care.

The SPS is an organization dedicated to promoting safe, high quality pediatric procedural sedation that also provides resources to help providers continually improve their practices. It also gathers information from participating pediatric hospitals and recognizes institutions that are striving for excellence. The designation will last four years.

"When a child is sick or injured, it's invaluable for a parent to have peace of mind afforded by knowing there's a team that specializes in providing pediatric treatment caring for their child," said Atrium Health Georgia Market President Delvecchio Finley. "Atrium Health Levine Children's Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital is proud to be central and south Georgia's dedicated children's hospital, providing care 24 hours a day, whenever we're needed. We are thankful to the Society for Pediatric Sedation for recognizing our facility's continual striving for excellence."

Sedation is used to induce a relaxed state when a child needs to undergo a minor, less invasive surgical procedure. Anesthesia is used to render a patient unconscious and unresponsive. While under sedation, a child may still be partially aware of what's happening around them. They may feel drowsy, but can usually respond to verbal commands. Sedation may be given through an IV or inhaled through the mouth or nose.

"Our team of medical professionals are specially trained and committed to making the experience as comforting and easy as possible," said Diana Sutton, chief nursing officer for Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital. "Child life specialists help minimize stress and anxiety for our patients, providing emotional support and developmentally appropriate strategies to assist children in coping with unfamiliar medical treatments and experiences."

As the only dedicated pediatric facility in central and south Georgia, and one of the most comprehensive in the state, Beverly Knight Olson Children's Hospital has the only 24/7 pediatric emergency room in the area. In addition to providing care in general pediatrics, pediatric critical care, neonatal intensive care and outpatient services, the hospital also serves as the primary teaching site for Mercer University School of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics.

For more information about services for children, or for help finding a doctor, visit childrenshospitalnh.org.

About Atrium Health Navicent

Atrium Health Navicent is the leading provider of health care in central and south Georgia and is committed to its mission of elevating health and well-being through compassionate care. Atrium Health Navicent is part of Advocate Health, which is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, and is the third-largest nonprofit health system in the United States, created from the combination of Atrium Health and Advocate Aurora Health. Atrium Health Navicent provides high-quality, personalized care in 53 specialties at more than 50 facilities throughout the region. As part of the largest, integrated, nonprofit health system in the Southeast, it is also able to tap into some of the nation's leading medical experts and specialists with Atrium Health, allowing it to provide the best care close to home – including advanced innovations in virtual medicine and care. Throughout its 130-year history in the community, Atrium Health Navicent has remained dedicated to enhancing health and wellness for individuals throughout the region through nationally recognized quality care, community health initiatives and collaborative partnerships. It is also one of the leading teaching hospitals in the region, helping to ensure viability for rural health care for the next generation. For more information, please visit www.NavicentHealth.org.

About Advocate Health

Advocate Health is the third-largest nonprofit, integrated health system in the United States, created from the combination of Advocate Aurora Health and Atrium Health. Providing care under the names Advocate Health Care in Illinois; Atrium Health in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama; and Aurora Health Care in Wisconsin, Advocate Health is a national leader in clinical innovation, health outcomes, consumer experience and value-based care. Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, Advocate Health services nearly 6 million patients and is engaged in hundreds of clinical trials and research studies, with Wake Forest University School of Medicine serving as the academic core of the enterprise. Advocate Health is nationally recognized for its expertise in heart and vascular, neurosciences, oncology, pediatrics and rehabilitation, as well as organ transplants, burn treatments and specialized musculoskeletal programs. Advocate Health employs more than 160,000 teammates across 69 hospitals and over 1,000 care locations, and offers one of the nation's largest graduate medical education programs with over 2,000 residents and fellows across more than 200 programs. Committed to redefining care for all, Advocate Health provides more than \$6 billion in annual community benefits.