



# Otolaryngology and Communication Enhancement



**MICHAEL J. CUNNINGHAM, MD,**  
Chief

The Department of Otolaryngology and Communication Enhancement at Boston Children's Hospital is the oldest, largest, and one of the most recognized centers for pediatric otolaryngology in the United States. Staffed by dedicated board-certified otolaryngologists, audiologists, speech and language pathologists and educators, the department provides expert diagnostic and therapeutic medical and surgical services for children and adolescents with disorders of the head and neck. Problems addressed include diseases and disorders of the ear, nose, throat, sinuses, vocal folds, airway and feeding passages. Additionally, department members evaluate and rehabilitate children with hearing, voice and speech disorders.

## Scheduling

### **Boston Children's Hospital**

333 Longwood Avenue, 3rd Floor  
Boston, MA 02115  
617-355-6462 | [bostonchildrens.org/oto](http://bostonchildrens.org/oto)

### **Boston Children's at Lexington**

482 Bedford Street  
Lexington, MA 02420  
781-672-2100

### **Boston Children's at Peabody**

10 Centennial Drive  
Peabody, MA 01960  
978-538-3600

### **Boston Children's at Waltham**

9 Hope Avenue  
Waltham, MA 02453  
781-216-2200

### **Boston Children's Physicians Weymouth**

Stetson Medical Center  
541 Main Street  
Weymouth, MA 02190  
781-331-4715

## International

For families residing outside of the United States, please contact Boston Children's International Health Services, which facilitates the medical review of patient records and appointment scheduling and provides assistance with customs and immigration, transportation and hotel and housing accommodations.

+1-617-355-5209 | [bostonchildrens.org/international](http://bostonchildrens.org/international)  
[international.center@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:international.center@childrens.harvard.edu)

## Highlights

- 27,000 outpatient visits each year
- 6,000 surgical procedures annually
- 11 specialty clinics
- 4 suburban clinics for easy access
- 16 otolaryngologists / surgeons
- 27 audiologists
- 26 speech-language pathologists
- 2 nurse practitioners
- 5 nurses
- 12 physician assistants

## Areas of expertise

Our team evaluates and treats a wide range of conditions, including:

- Airway disorders
- Aspiration
- Balance and vestibular disorders
- Cholesteatoma
- Conditions requiring airway reconstruction
- Conditions requiring cochlear implants
- Congenital neck masses
- Croup
- Cystic fibrosis
- Feeding and swallowing disorders
- Head and neck tumors
- Hearing loss
- Hemangiomas
- Mastoiditis
- Neck infections
- Neuro-otological conditions
- Newborn stridor/laryngomalacia
- Obstructive sleep apnea
- Otitis media (middle ear infection)
- Ototoxicity
- Sinusitis and other sinonasal disorders
- Speech and language problems
- Tonsil and adenoid disorders
- Vascular (lymphatic) malformations
- Vertigo
- Voice disorders

# ORL and Communication Enhancement

## Clinical Programs

### Augmentative Communication Program

Provides evaluation and rehabilitation services for children and adults who are non-speaking or whose speech is severely impaired. Using a variety of assistive technologies, such as “talking computers” and voice synthesizers, our program enables non-speaking individuals of all ages to communicate.

781-216-2209 | [bostonchildrens.org/cce](http://bostonchildrens.org/cce)

### Center for Airway Disorders

Provides long-term care and comprehensive treatment to children with complex problems involving the aerodigestive tract. The Center for Airway Disorders offers a clinic in the Department of Otolaryngology, in close collaboration with other specialties, specifically Cardiology and Cardiothoracic Surgery, for both new and returning patients.

617-355-3795 | [bostonchildrens.org/oto](http://bostonchildrens.org/oto)

### Balance and Vestibular Program

One of only a handful of pediatric vestibular (balance) programs in the United States, our program combines cutting-edge technology with caring, professional specialists who have significant experience in diagnosing and addressing vestibular problems in children of all ages.

781-216-2799 | [bostonchildrens.org/balance](http://bostonchildrens.org/balance)

### Center for Head, Neck and Skull Base Tumors

Provides comprehensive care and consultation for children and adolescents with congenital anomalies and benign and malignant tumors of the head and neck. Working with clinicians and researchers at Dana-Farber/Children’s Hospital Cancer Center, the center is dedicated to advancing understanding of diagnosis, treatment and cures for and prevention of head and neck tumors.

617-355-5798 | [bostonchildrens.org/headneck](http://bostonchildrens.org/headneck)

### Cochlear Implant Program

The largest pediatric program in New England, our program provides advanced hearing technology to children with permanent hearing loss. Patients are evaluated by a multidisciplinary team comprised of cochlear implant surgeons, audiologists, psychologists, speech and language pathologists, educators of the deaf and other specialists.

617-216-2250 | [bostonchildrens.org/cochlear](http://bostonchildrens.org/cochlear)

### Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program

Provides comprehensive evaluation and consultative services to deaf and hard of hearing children. By assessing a child’s cognitive, social, emotional, speech, language and auditory skills, the program assists in planning the child’s educational, health care and therapeutic needs.

781-216-2215 | [bostonchildrens.org/dhhp](http://bostonchildrens.org/dhhp)

### Diagnostic Audiology Program

Offers comprehensive, expert evaluation and management of various degrees of hearing loss in infants, children and adolescents. Specially trained audiologists conduct diagnostic tests to assess hearing disorders, provide guidance to families, and recommend appropriate care for hearing loss.

617-355-6461 | [bostonchildrens.org/audiology](http://bostonchildrens.org/audiology)

### Feeding and Swallowing Program

Provides comprehensive diagnostic evaluations and therapy to infants, children and adolescents with feeding and/or swallowing difficulties. Specially trained speech-language pathologists assist families in maximizing their children’s growth and development.

617-355-7727 | [bostonchildrens.org/feedingandswallowing](http://bostonchildrens.org/feedingandswallowing)

### Sinus Surgery Program

Offers the latest medical and surgical techniques in treating all types of sinus problems, from simple infections to complex anatomical anomalies and tumors. Specific medical conditions, such as cystic fibrosis, are managed in collaboration with Pulmonology.

617-355-6462 | [bostonchildrens.org/sinussurgery](http://bostonchildrens.org/sinussurgery)

### Speech-Language Pathology Program

Treats children and adolescents with a variety of communication disorders, including those who have difficulties with language, articulation, voice, resonance and swallowing. Using a variety of therapeutic methods, such as group speech/language therapy and psychotherapy, our program helps children maximize their communicative abilities.

781-216-2237 | [bostonchildrens.org/speech](http://bostonchildrens.org/speech)

### Voice and Velopharyngeal Dysfunction

Evaluates children with voice and speech articulation disorders. Both diagnostic and management services are provided, including voice/speech therapy, medical treatment and surgical intervention where appropriate.

617-355-5116 | [bostonchildrens.org/voice](http://bostonchildrens.org/voice)

## Research

Basic science and clinical research is a major focus of the Department of Otolaryngology and Communication Enhancement. Gabriel Corfas, PhD, and Margaret Kenna, MD, MPH, coordinate a wide variety of basic and clinical research projects.

## Training the Next Generation

The Boston Children’s Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellowship Program began in 1978 and has since grown into one of the most respected of its kind in the country. Our department also provides training for the residents from the Harvard Medical School, Boston University and Tufts University otolaryngology residency programs, as well as visiting physicians, fellows and medical students from around the world.

617-355-5064 | [bostonchildrens.org/fellowship](http://bostonchildrens.org/fellowship)