

Boston Children's Spina Bifida and Spinal Cord Conditions Center

We're excited to share some recent updates about our center.

Welcoming new staff

Catherine Sheehan is our new pediatric nurse practitioner. She recently relocated from Michigan to join our growing team. Catherine is passionate about providing excellent care to our patients and has valuable prior experience caring for spina bifida patients in the NICU.

Ann Paris joins our team as a second nurse practitioner. She has 16 years of experience as a nurse practitioner at Boston Children's Epilepsy Center.



**Boston
Children's
Hospital**

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Our new nursing team also includes two experienced registered nurses. **Mikayla Lewis** has worked as an inpatient nurse at Boston Children's for many years. **Abbey Mahan** joins us from the Beth Israel NICU. Mikayla and Abbey will be providing patient education and teaching in addition to answering your questions when you call our nursing line.

Anya Casieri is our new program coordinator. This is a new role that will further improve the care coordination we provide as a center.

Monai' Allen and **Aaron Barbour** are our two new patient experience representatives. They are happy to assist when you call the clinic and will manage all your scheduling needs.

Licensed clinical social worker **Eileen Polasky** joined our team in 2021. She serves patients and families with psychosocial and behavioral health needs by providing psychosocial assessment and support for adjustment to chronic illness. She can also help with school advocacy; referrals for resources, public benefits, and community providers; crisis intervention; and consultation related to child protection, guardianship, and legal issues.

Lauren Kelleher has joined our team in a new position as a case manager. She previously spent 14 years in Boston Children's MICU. She will act as an additional support to families and will be available to assist with DME and supply needs, in coordination with your insurance.

Dr. Erin McNamara is continuing her role as our clinical director. **Dr. Arda Hotz** from the Complex Care Service is our new medical director, and **Dr. Jennifer Queally** is now our director of research and transition-related services.

Moving on

In September, our long-time nurse practitioner, **Rebecca Sherlock**, completed her doctorate degree, and moved on from Boston Children's. We are grateful for the high level of care and dedication Rebecca provided for our patients over the last 13 years. If you would like to reach out to her, you can email her [here](#).

Multiple ways to reach us

We have been working to improve the ways patients and families can contact the center. These options are monitored during business hours; however, they are not designed to provide emergency medical responses.

- Call 617-355-8532 or fax 617-730-4701.
- For clinical concerns, please email: spinabifidaclinicrns@childrens.harvard.edu
- For scheduling concerns, please email: SpinaBifidaCoordinating-dl@childrens.harvard.edu
- Families are welcome to use their MyChildren's portal to reach out to specific providers.

We look forward to continuing to partner with you. Please reach out with any questions.