OU Health | College of Medicine
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology Oncology
Department of Pediatrics
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and OU Health
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

THE SEARCH

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and OU Health seek a visionary, innovative, and nationally recognized physician-scholar to serve as the next Chief of the Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology. Joining the division in the midst of a critical growth period spurred on by strategic investments in research infrastructure and faculty through Project 200, the incoming Chief will expand the division's clinical, research, and service missions across Oklahoma and the region. Leveraging existing strengths in neuro-oncology, solid tumors, blood and clotting disorders, and pediatric bone marrow and stem cell transplantation, the Chief will build upon institutional momentum, continuing to facilitate groundbreaking interdisciplinary research and clinical trial opportunities, recruiting and mentoring top notch faculty and physician-researchers, while deepening collaborations across the enterprise.

The University of Oklahoma Harold Hamm Health Campus is the state's comprehensive academic health campus, home to seven health-related colleges and a large, growing biomedical research enterprise. The Department of Pediatrics is the largest department in the College of Medicine, encompassing 18 specialty sections and more than 250 faculty members and 175 advanced practice providers who serve as the primary medical staff for Oklahoma Children's outpatient services and the hospital. The department benefits from strong institutional and philanthropic support and a foundation of productive research programs across several specialties. The Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology sits within a robust multidisciplinary cancer care infrastructure with access to strong clinical partners across all pediatric subspecialties and adult oncology services through the OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center, Oklahoma's only NCI-Designated Cancer Center. OU is an active member of the Children's Oncology Group (COG) and has consistently ranked in the top quartile nationally for enrollment on COG studies. The division benefits from major philanthropic investment through the Children's Hospital Foundation Pediatric Cancer Program, including multiple endowed chairs supporting laboratory and translational research. The total endowment in the division is greater than $25 million, ready for mobilization to become a leading division of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology in the country.

Reporting to the Chair of Pediatrics, Dr. Michael Steiner, the Chief will be a distinguished physician-scientist building an ambitious vision for the unit and capitalizing on significant institutional investments in research infrastructure and recruitment. Leadership roles in the Stephenson Cancer Center are available for the appropriate leader. The incoming Chief will have the unique opportunity to help broaden interdisciplinary research and collaborations and establish a continuum of care for pediatric hematology oncology patients between Oklahoma Children's Hospital and adult services at the Stephenson Cancer Center.

Applicants for this position should be board-certified physicians in Pediatrics with subspecialty training in hematology-oncology; be eligible for appointment at the associate or full professor level; maintain an active medical license and be eligible for licensure in Oklahoma; and demonstrate a nationally recognized record of accomplishment, including a strong track record of funded research and leadership in collaborative research programs.

The University of Oklahoma College of Medicine has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist with this search. Inquiries, nominations, and applications will be treated confidentially and should be directed to the firm as indicated at the end of this document.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Founded in 1890, the University of Oklahoma (OU) in Norman, Oklahoma, is the state's premier institution of higher education and a leading research university. It spans three campuses and boasts a student body of 31,000 enrolled in 170 academic programs. With a significant commitment to research, OU expends $417 million annually on research initiatives, driving a $2.1 billion enterprise focused on transforming lives through scholarship and impactful research across Oklahoma.

University of Oklahoma Harold Hamm Health Campus (OUHC)

Located in Oklahoma City, OUHC is one of the nation's few academic health centers with seven professional colleges onsite, including Medicine, Allied Health, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Graduate Studies. With an annual budget of $900 million, OUHC employs over 800 full-time faculty and 4,000 staff. It educates and trains nearly 4,000 students and 1,000 residents, post-docs, and fellows across more than 70 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

With the largest portfolio of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding in the state, OU grew its NIH research portfolio to $65.4 million, ranking 69th in the nation, according to the Blue Ridge Rankings. OUCOM aims to rank in the top 60 in the next five years and in the top 50 within 10 years.

OU Health

Established in 1910 by founding partners OUHC and the University Hospitals Authority and Trust, OU Health, in its current form, was incorporated as a locally owned nonprofit corporation in 2018. OU Health is the state's only comprehensive academic health system of hospitals, clinics, and centers of excellence. With 10,000 employees and more than 1,300 physicians and advanced practice providers, OU Health is home to Oklahoma's largest doctor network, OU Health Physicians, with nearly one million patient visits per year.

OU Health serves Oklahoma and the region with the state's only dedicated academic children's hospital, Oklahoma Children's Hospital. OU Health also hosts the state's only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated cancer center, the OU Health Stephenson Cancer Center. OU Health's flagship adult hospital, OU Medical Center, serves as the state's only Level 1 trauma center and includes the Harold Hamm Diabetes Center; the renowned Dean McGee Eye Institute is also on the campus. A community hospital, Edmond Medical Center, is also part of OU Health. OU Health also has clinical affiliations with Oklahoma City Veterans Affairs Medical Center and other major hospitals and clinics across Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Children's Hospital

Oklahoma Children's, the pediatric clinical enterprise of OU Health, delivers coordinated pediatric care statewide and is anchored by Oklahoma Children's Hospital, a comprehensive, freestanding pediatric tertiary care center with 246 beds. As the state's only Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center and academic pediatric facility, the hospital provides the most advanced, specialized services in Oklahoma. In the coming years, the hospital is adding a Pediatric Behavioral Health Center and a Pediatric Cardiac Care Tower expansion, creating almost 500 total licensed beds.

At Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health, staff blend years of training with education, research and technology to improve the lives of children throughout the region. Oklahoma Children's Hospital is recognized as a U.S. News and World Report's ranking as one of the Top 50 Best Children's Hospitals in the nation across multiple specialties.

The Oklahoma Children's Hospital neonatal intensive care unit is the only Level 4 nursery in the state and has over 100 beds. An embedded service within the Oklahoma Children's Hospital is the Women's and Newborn Service, which is a regional referral center for the state, providing prenatal and delivery care for pregnancies ranging from low-risk to the most complicated. The obstetric emergency room at Oklahoma Children's Hospital is a regional referral center for the state, and the neonatal intensive care unit provides the highest level of newborn care in Oklahoma.

Children's is also home to the only 24/7 pediatric emergency room in Oklahoma City with approximately 50,000 visits a year. With a family-centered approach to healing, Children's offers resources from pet therapy to Certified Child Life specialists who help families cope with hospitalization and illness. From advanced surgical services to general pediatrics, oncology care

and more, Oklahoma Children's provides cutting-edge research and treatments through hospital-based and outpatient services.

The College of Medicine

The College of Medicine (COM) is the largest entity within the University of Oklahoma Harold Hamm Health Campus and forms the cornerstone of OU Health. The College includes nearly 1,350 faculty across campuses in Oklahoma City and Tulsa and supports 83 residency and fellowship programs, training approximately 750 residents and fellows annually. More than half remain in Oklahoma, reflecting the College's critical role in developing the state's physician workforce.

The College maintains the largest NIH-funded research portfolio in Oklahoma, with approximately $72.3 million in annual support, and it is pursuing an ambitious agenda to expand research capacity, clinical trials, and national visibility. Institutional priorities include growth in extramural funding, recruitment of research-active faculty, and investment in strategic areas such as neuroscience, cancer, diabetes and metabolic disease, children's health and population health. Supported by the state's largest biomedical research infrastructure, the College aims to further strengthen its national standing and research impact.

The Department of Pediatrics

The Department of Pediatrics serves as the academic home for Oklahoma Children's OU Health and anchors children's care across the state. It is the largest department in the College of Medicine, encompassing 18 pediatric specialty sections and more than 250 faculty who collectively support a comprehensive clinical, research, education, and advocacy mission.

The department's research enterprise spans the full spectrum of pediatric investigation, including discovery and innovation, translational science, clinical trials, and health services research. Areas with the most activity currently include neonatology, endocrinology, hematology and oncology, genetics, and a vibrant body of clinician-led research across multiple sub-specialties alongside additional areas of opportunity that reflect the department's clinical breadth and statewide mission.

Clinically, the department supports a rapidly expanding children's outpatient and hospital platform with increasing patient volume, complexity, and geographic reach. This environment offers substantial opportunities to strengthen clinical and translational research, including investigator-initiated studies and clinical trials, while maintaining a strong focus on education and training.

Research, education, and advocacy are longstanding pillars of the department's identity. Pediatrics attracts residents, fellows, and students from across the country and maintains active partnerships with community and tribal stakeholders that inform care delivery and scholarly priorities across Oklahoma.

The Department of Pediatrics benefits from sustained institutional and philanthropic support from the University, the College of Medicine, OU Health, and community partners. Together, these resources support a department of significant scale and complexity and underscore the need for centralized, strategic leadership to guide its research enterprise.

The Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology

The Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology is home to 14 faculty and 12 APPs, for a total of 26 providers. Division faculty include board-certified pediatric hematologist-oncologists and multiple endowed physician-scientists, advanced practice providers, and psychologists specially trained in supportive care and cancer survivorship. The division diagnoses and treats children and teens with cancers and benign hematologic disorders including bleeding and clotting disorders, sickle cell disease and related hemoglobinopathies, and provides bone marrow/stem cell transplantation for selected malignant and benign disorders. Researchers conduct clinical trials in cancer, hemophilia, and sickle cell anemia, and The Children's Hospital Foundation's Pediatric Cancer Program supports endowed chairs conducting basic laboratory investigations.

The division is an active member in the Children's Oncology Group, the Texas-Oklahoma Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Consortium (TOPNOC), the Beat Childhood Cancer Consortium, and the South Plains Oncology Consortium. Comprehensive care includes access to state-of-the-art medical diagnosis and treatment in facilities that are patient and family friendly. Many of the available treatment opportunities provided by the division are unavailable elsewhere in the state. The division boasts a federally recognized comprehensive program for bleeding and clotting disorders as well as a FACT-accredited pediatric bone marrow and stem cell transplantation program, the only such programs in Oklahoma.

The division trains OUHC medical students, physician assistant students, and pediatric residents as well as others who enroll in service-related electives. In 2012, the division opened a newly ACGME-accredited pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship program that accepts 2 residents per year.

The Jimmy Everest Center

James "Jimmy" Christopher Everest died in 1992 at the age of 17, after a brave battle with Ewing sarcoma. With memorial donations made to honor his life, his family and friends created the Jimmy Everest Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders in Children to provide outpatient care for children and adolescents with oncologic and hematologic disorders in Oklahoma. The center is designed to enhance the treatment experience, providing outstanding, personalized care for every child and their family.

In 2009, OU Children's Physicians opened a state-of-the-art ambulatory care building; the Jimmy Everest Center relocated services to the 10th floor of this new facility. The child-friendly center serves as a referral center for children throughout Oklahoma and the region and is dedicated to expert

patient care, developing new knowledge to improve care, and educating the next generation of Oklahoma's physicians.

The Stephenson Cancer Center

The Stephenson Cancer Center is Oklahoma's only NCI-Designated Cancer Center and serves as a transformative research hub for advancing cancer care. Patients receive personalized attention from multidisciplinary teams and can access early-phase clinical trials and therapies at locations in Edmond, Lawton, McAlester, Norman, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, and Yukon. Investigators currently work on more than 400 cancer research projects, supported by $60 million of annual funding from the National Institutes of Health, American Cancer Society, and others. Over the past three years, they published more than 750 scientific articles advancing science and influencing cancer treatment in Oklahoma and around the world.

Stephenson Cancer Center is expanding to the University of Oklahoma Schusterman Center in Tulsa, making National Cancer Institute-designated, research-driven cancer care more accessible for northeastern Oklahoma. The new center will offer advanced therapies and clinical trials, helping patients through diagnosis to survivorship. Opening in summer 2028, the new cancer center facility will span 176,100 square feet, built for comprehensive outpatient cancer care and research.

This expansion enhances OU Health's partnership with Hillcrest HealthCare System, providing more clinic space and integrated services in Tulsa. Patients benefit from a seamless, patient-centered experience combining the strengths of trusted local providers and the expertise of academic physician-scientists. Powered by Public-Private Partnerships and Philanthropy, the Tulsa cancer center is made possible by generous support from public and private partners, including $25 million from Charles and Peggy Stephenson and the Stephenson Family Foundation, $50 million from the Oklahoma Legislature, and $8 million from the Cherokee Nation.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE CHIEF

The incoming Chief will be responsible for addressing the following opportunities and challenges within the Division of Hematology Oncology:

Develop a strategic vision that enhances research, education, and patient care

The Department of Pediatrics is poised for growth and the incoming Chief will partner closely with the Chair to develop and implement an ambitious strategic vision for hematology oncology that capitalizes on OU's institutional momentum and is in alignment with the key priorities of OUHC, OU Health, Oklahoma Children's, the COM, and the Stephenson Cancer Center. An entrepreneurial and innovative leader by practice, the Chief will accelerate recruitment efforts and infrastructural supports, positioning the unit for a dramatically expanded research and clinical trials mission and groundbreaking advancements in clinical care. With a new cancer center coming online in Tulsa in

2028, the Chief will partner with the Stephenson Cancer Center to expand services for pediatric oncology patients across Oklahoma and the region.

Enhance and expand partnerships across OU's heavily matrixed enterprise

In OU's heavily matrixed enterprise, it is incumbent upon the incoming Chief to solidify robust partnerships across the institution, health system, and department while championing divisional interests. A keen collaborator and collegial colleague, the Chief will establish a culture committed to interdisciplinary innovation and excellence in research, teaching, and service. With the goal of breaking down siloes and operational barriers, the Chief will foster community across the division, will increase integration with Stephenson Cancer Center, and facilitate a continuum of care for pediatric hematology oncology patients with adult services.

Strategically grow the division's clinical footprint

As OU Health expands clinical services across the state, the Chief must position the division to be the premier provider for hematology oncology within the state and region. By leveraging existing partnerships with key regional providers and raising the profile of research and clinical outcomes within the unit, hematology oncology services at the Jimmy Everest Cancer Center is poised to become a landmark destination for pediatric cancer patients in the region. This Chief role is one that comes with the opportunity to materially impact the health of a state and region. Partnering closely with the Stephenson Cancer Center, the division will promote a clinical care model that is responsive to the needs of the state's population and is innovative in its delivery.

Promote research excellence and expand productivity

With growth opportunities across the basic-clinical spectrum, the Chief will select the division's priority research areas in consultation with divisional and departmental leaders, providing strategic investment in faculty, staff, and infrastructural support while maintaining excellence in existing areas of strength. A facile relationship builder and convener, the Chief will deepen relationships across pediatrics and other departments as well as with adult hematology oncology researchers and clinicians to support interdisciplinary research and clinical trial outcomes. The Chief will nurture a strong culture of communication and cross-collaboration among division faculty and reinvigorate a culture of academic engagement, prioritizing the development of physician-scientists and positioning the division to become a powerhouse for discovery-based science.

Amplify educational opportunities for next-generation hematology oncology fellows

The division attracts nationally competitive trainees and accepts two hematology oncology fellows annually. As the division's research and service missions expand, the Chief will be tasked with maintaining excellence in educational delivery, combining comprehensive training in patient care and research to provide physicians with a strong foundation in clinical care, quality assessment, clinical trial protocols. The Chief will continue to ensure that fellows are prepared for successful

careers in academics, industry, or clinical practice and seek to continue to raise the profile of the fellowship program and outcomes.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Candidates must have qualifications commensurate with an academic appointment at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine. In addition, the ideal candidate will possess the following qualities and qualifications:

- MD, MD/PhD, DO with board certification in pediatrics with subspecialty training in hematology/oncology and license eligibility in Oklahoma (if applicable); and an academic record commensurate with appointment to the rank of associate or full professor is required;
- Administrative leadership experience in an academic medical center environment;
- Demonstrated commitment to excellence in recruiting, retaining, and developing faculty;
- Record in scholarly achievement and ideally will have an active research portfolio with extramural funding;
- Experience supporting and growing interdisciplinary research and scholarship;
- Demonstrated commitment to the education mission and to actively provide mentorship with residents, fellows, and medical students to cultivate and advance the workforce of the future;
- Effectiveness in a complex system of distributed leadership and experience working in a highly matrixed environment;
- Proficiency in managing and engaging with stakeholders within a matrixed environment;
- Commitment to clinical excellence, accessibility, and expansion;
- Strong acumen and judgment in managing financial resources and the ability to align resources with strategic priorities;
- Experience promoting a welcoming culture in the workforce and academic environment;
- Commitment to addressing health disparities; and
- Demonstrated vision, a results-oriented approach, the highest level of integrity, and evidence of timely and principled decision-making.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma City, the capital and largest city in the state, is a city on the rise. It anchors a growing metropolitan area of more than 1.4 million residents and offers a rare combination of momentum, livability, and affordability. The region enjoys a mild climate with abundant sunshine and long spring and fall seasons that support year-round outdoor activity, complemented by more than 75,000 acres of parks and trails and the nationally recognized Oklahoma River corridor for rowing, kayaking, cycling, and major sporting events.

Over the past two decades, Oklahoma City has experienced sustained civic and economic transformation driven by long-term public investment and population growth. With a collaborative culture, expanding research and innovation ecosystem, and continued investment in infrastructure, Oklahoma City offers an appealing environment for academic leaders seeking both professional opportunity and livability.

For more information on Oklahoma City please visit:

https://www.okcchamber.com/
www.visitokc.com/
www.abetterlifeokc.com/

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website:

https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-oklahoma-health-sciences/chief-pediatric-hematology-oncology. Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

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Isaacson, Miller

The University of Oklahoma, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information, gender identity/expression (consistent with applicable law), age (40 or older), religion, disability, political beliefs, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, housing, financial aid, and educational services.

Why You Belong at the University of Oklahoma:

The University of Oklahoma values our community's unique talents, perspectives, and experiences. At OU, we aspire to harness our innovation, creativity, and collaboration for the advancement of people everywhere. You Belong Here!

Mission of the University of Oklahoma:

The Mission of the University of Oklahoma is to provide the best possible educational experience for our students through excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, and service to the state and society.

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by the University of Oklahoma and OU Health. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by the University of Oklahoma and OU Health would supersede any conflicting information in this document.