

Fast Facts on Pediatric Sarcoma Surgery
From Mark L. Urken, MD, FACS

Will a pediatric hospital provide the best treatment for your young sarcoma patient?

Childhood head and neck sarcomas are so rare—only about 125 cases occur in the U.S. annually—that a pediatrician may never see one in an entire career. When you suspect an upper airway tumor, very likely your first impulse is referral to a pediatric facility. But the truth is, successful outcomes for UADT malignancies are frequently dependent on precise resection and premier, comprehensive multidisciplinary care—often unavailable at pediatric hospitals.

Patient's before/after photo

Put your patient in the hands of a world-class head and neck surgeon

When faced with management of head and neck sarcomas, discerning pediatricians and pediatric ENTs rely on Dr. Mark L. Urken, Co-Director of The Institute for Head and Neck and Thyroid Cancer at Beth Israel Medical Center, New York City. An internationally acclaimed otolaryngologist and microvascular surgeon, Dr. Urken offers your pediatric patient:

**Dr. Urken Offers
Advanced Surgical
Treatment For:**

- Osteogenic sarcoma
- Rhabdomyosarcoma
- Ewing's sarcoma
- Other soft

- **Unparalleled experience:** Dr. Urken has treated more than 10,000 patients with cancer and other disease of the head and neck. His innovative microvascular skills assure your pediatric patient the most exact resection and expert tissue transfer with minimal risk of damage to growing muscles, nerves and bones.
- **Customized treatment for pediatric patients:** Dr. Urken treats patients as young as one year of age. He collaborates with an acclaimed pediatric oncologist who is globally recognized for his innovation in childhood

cancer therapies.

- **A unique maxillofacial and prosthodontic team** that partners with Dr. Urken to provide your patient the widest range of reconstructive and restorative options including novel jaw and facial therapies, prosthetic dentition and meticulous long-term follow-up.

Advantages of state-of-the-art multidisciplinary care

At The Institute, Dr. Urken's pediatric patients receive world-class multidisciplinary care customized for the needs of growing children. Conveniently located under one roof, The Institute's renowned head and neck cancer team includes 30 experts in oncologic surgery, thoracic surgery, neurosurgery, pediatric medical oncology, radiation oncology, maxillofacial surgery, pediatric dentistry, prosthodontics, radiology, pathology, speech therapy, nutritional counseling, and pain and palliative care.

Special services for the special needs of pediatric patients—and their families

Children are treated as outpatients for 90% of all services at The Institute. When surgery is required, specialized nurses tend to patients' post-op needs in a **Pediatric Intensive Care Unit staffed 24/7**. For overnight stays, **hospital room accommodations are available to parents** who can relax in a **private family waiting room** while their child is in surgery. Supported by a Patient Advocate, families may choose from **an array of psychosocial services**, as well as amenities that include **The Thanksgiving Club**, an arm of the Thyroid, Head and Neck Cancer (THANC) Foundation, that provides hospitality to pediatric patients and their families.

Call today to learn about options for your patient

Please call us at 212-844-6949 to learn about treatment options for your pediatric patient—or to arrange a telephone consultation with Dr. Urken. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Pediatric Sarcoma Fast Facts

Fact: One in every 330 American children under age 19 is diagnosed with cancer each year.

Fact: Pediatric head and neck cancer is increasing. Between 1973-1985 and 1994-1996, incidence of head and neck cancer in children rose 35%.

Fact: Bone malignancies make up 6% of all childhood cancers. Incidence rises between ages 5-10 and inclines more steeply between ages 11-15, coinciding with adolescent growth. Presenting symptoms include pain, swelling or tenderness that may increase over time.

Fact: Rhabdomyosarcoma (RMS) accounts for 5% of all pediatric cancers and 40% of all RMSs occur in the head and neck. Presenting symptoms include localized swelling, possibly accompanied by nasal obstruction, otorrhea, hearing loss and cranial nerve deficit.

Photo
Dr.
Urken

Mark L. Urken, MD, FACS, is Director of Head and Neck Surgical Oncology for Continuum Cancer Centers of New York. A graduate of University of Virginia Medical School, Dr. Urken served his residency in otolaryngology at Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York City. He completed a fellowship in microvascular reconstructive surgery of the head and neck at Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA. Board certified in otolaryngology and head and neck surgery, Dr. Urken has authored numerous textbook chapters and peer-reviewed articles on his specialties. He is the Medical Director of the Thyroid, Head and Neck (THANC) Foundation.