



Executive Leadership Search

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR INNOVATION AND
TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION**

Nationwide Children's Hospital
Columbus, Ohio



**NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S®**

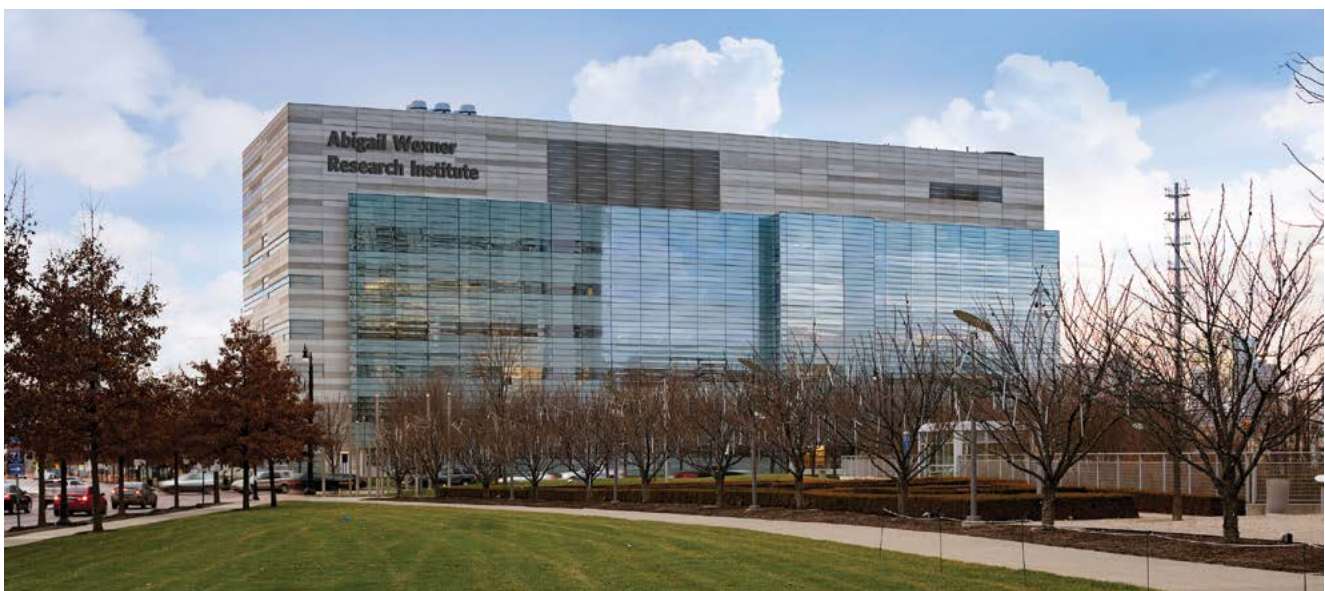
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

Vice President for Innovation and Technology Commercialization at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Reporting to the president of the [Abigail Wexner Research Institute \(AWRI\)](#) at [Nationwide Children's Hospital](#), the vice president for Innovation and Technology Commercialization provides executive oversight of enterprise-wide activities that support innovation and technology commercialization at Nationwide Children's Hospital. The VP provides direct oversight of the [Office of Technology Commercialization](#) and the Innovation Center and works collaboratively with other institutional leaders to support an environment that facilitates the identification and development of opportunities for a broad range of innovations in pediatric healthcare delivery. The VP will oversee a portfolio of biotechnology, medical device, health care IT, and other intellectual property assets in various stages of development, as well as innovation-focused development and educational programs for Nationwide Children's personnel. The VP ensures the commercialization function at Nationwide Children's Hospital executes effective evaluation, marketing, protection, and out-licensing of its intellectual property portfolio. The VP works in a leadership capacity to ensure the Office of Technology Commercialization and the Innovation Center are effectively collaborating with and supporting

all other innovation-focused efforts within the hospital system, including the [Office of Data Sciences](#), the [Midwest Pediatric Device Consortium](#), and the [Center for Clinical Excellence](#) among others.

The VP for Innovation and Technology Commercialization, in collaboration with the Nationwide Children's CEO, CFO, VP for Treasury and Finance, and president of the AWRI, will oversee and manage the hospital's internal investment mechanisms, to ensure maximum impact from all institutional innovation-focused initiatives, and working with these senior leaders, oversee the allocation and management of external investments managed by [Rev1 Ventures](#). Furthermore, the VP is responsible for providing an entrepreneurial approach to the system's commercialization efforts by generating and advancing strategic partnerships with industry, local and state political and economic development resources, and the venture capital community, and promoting an environment of professional and effective commercialization in the Research Institute and across the entire Nationwide Children's Hospital system.



Nationwide Children's Hospital

Founded in 1892, Nationwide Children's Hospital has steadily evolved into one of the leading children's hospitals in the nation. Named as a Top 10 Honor Roll "Best Children's Hospital" for over a decade, Nationwide Children's is one of America's largest not-for-profit free-standing pediatric health care systems providing wellness, preventive, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitative care for infants, children and adolescents, as well as adult patients with congenital disease. In partnership with the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Surgery at The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Nationwide Children's trains the next generation of pediatricians, pediatric surgeons, pediatric specialists and research scientists.

Nationwide Children's is in the midst of an aggressive and progressive strategic plan to address the health of the whole child in a unique care model that emphasizes the integration of research and clinical care. The plan leverages differentiating investment in genomics, population health, health equity and behavioral health that the institution has made over the past several years, positioning Nationwide Children's to take a leadership role nationally in defining and influencing the future of pediatric health care and health promotion. Translating discoveries into applied therapeutics, diagnostics and devices is a strategic priority.

Beyond its walls, Nationwide Children's invests in building social equity within its communities, addressing the social determinants of health, and developing payment models to better serve unique populations of children. Nationwide Children's unparalleled investment in genomics and behavioral health services and research lends further credence to its role as an ambitious champion for the well-being of children everywhere.

Guided by "One Team" values, Nationwide Children's has built an inclusive culture, enabling employees to bring their unique differences and talents to work every day. In recognition of the success in this realm, Nationwide Children's was named to Forbes' 2025 America's Best Large Employers List and topped the 2024 Forbes List of Best Employers for Women. In 2020, the hospital received the Hearst Health Prize for Excellence in Population Health and has been recognized with the Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence five consecutive times since 2005.



The Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children's

The Abigail Wexner Research Institute (AWRI) at Nationwide Children's is ranked among the top 10 freestanding children's hospitals based on NIH prime funding (\$71.4M in 2024). On a continuing trajectory of rapid growth, research is conducted by more than 250 principal investigators and over 100 postdoctoral fellows and graduate students. It has resulted in more than 1,800 publications per year and the launch of 26 startup companies, 19 of which are currently active.

With an overarching goal of collectively improving the health and quality of life for children and their families, AWRI currently houses the following centers and institutes:

- Biopathology Center
- Center for Biobehavioral Health
- Center for Cardiovascular Research
- Center for Child Health Equity and Outcomes Research
- Center for Childhood Cancer Research
- Center for Clinical and Translational Research
- Jerry R. Mendell, MD Center for Gene Therapy
- Center for Injury Research and Policy
- The Kidney and Urinary Tract Center
- Center for Microbe and Immunity Research
- Center for Perinatal Research
- Center for Regenerative Medicine
- Center for Suicide Prevention and Research
- The Steve and Cindy Rasmussen Institute for Genomic Medicine
- The Institute for Mental and Behavioral Health Research

AWRI encompasses more than 750,000 square feet of dedicated pediatric research space across four buildings on the Nationwide Children's campus. Centralized, on-site resources support center investigators at all stages of their work including core facilities such as animal resources (vivarium), clinical research services, gene editing, cell and tissue cGMP manufacturing, and rapid genomic sequencing. Researchers also have access to core resources at The Ohio State University Clinical and Translational Science Institute, Comprehensive Cancer Center, and elsewhere on the OSU campus.

An Office of Data Sciences at Nationwide Children's unlocks the full capabilities of biomedical data across research and clinical programs. The office has four critical areas of focus: access to advanced data analytics and ML platforms; a strategic approach to AI applications; initiatives to accelerate the translation of scientific data into tangible insights; and education to cultivate data science expertise.

The Steve and Cindy Rasmussen Institute for Genomic Medicine, launched in 2016, is one of the nation's first and most robust ventures into pediatric precision genomic medicine. With the expertise of world-renowned faculty, Nationwide Children's is a leader in genomic-based medicine, which focuses on the root cause of many childhood diseases and genome-based testing as central to pediatric diagnosis and treatment. Combining a robust clinical laboratory with genome scientists and clinical geneticists to optimize patient care, the Institute remains one of the few programs of its kind in the United States.

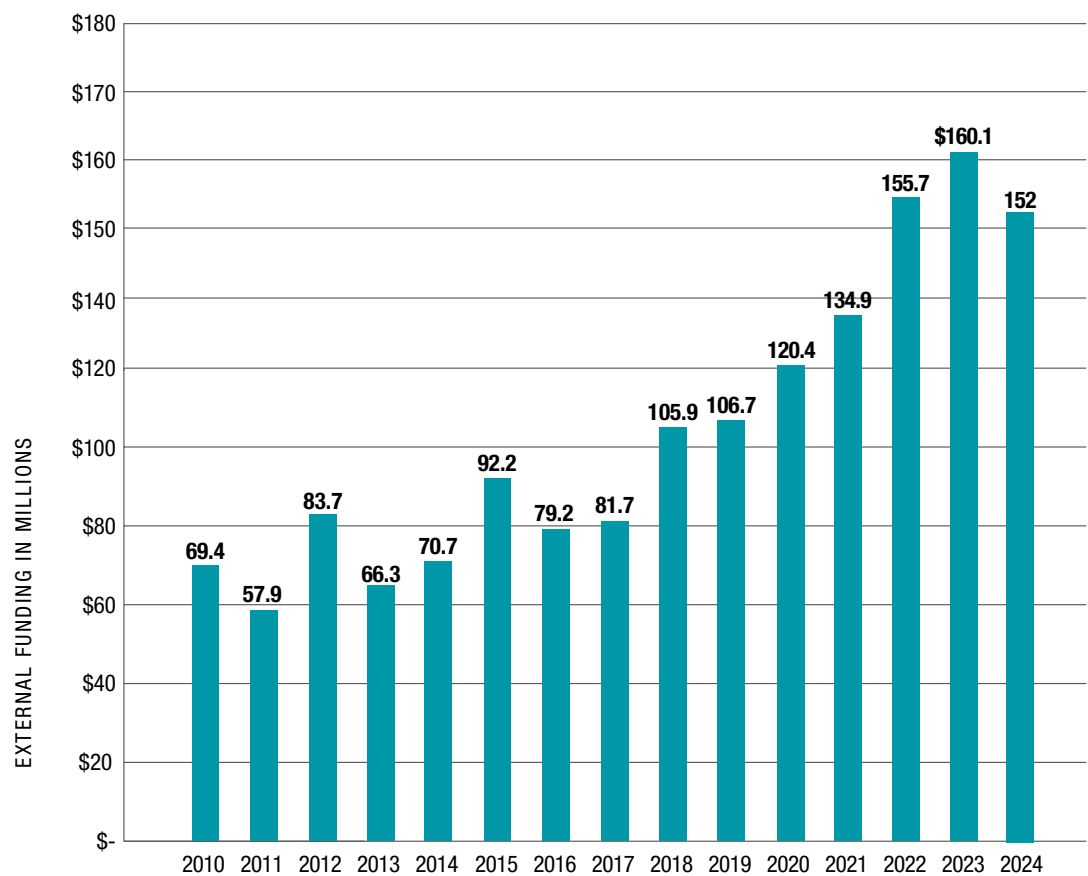
The Institute for Mental and Behavioral Health Research conducts innovative translational, clinical and epidemiological research focused on etiology, prevention and treatment of mental, emotional and behavioral disorders. Embedded within the institute is the Center for Suicide Prevention and Research. Recently awarded a P50 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health, center faculty and staff sustain the work of multiple projects focused on suicidality and suicide prevention.

From initial discovery to preclinical validation studies to first-in-human clinical trials, AWRI houses a robust infrastructure consisting of specially trained research coordinators, regulatory specialists that guide early interactions with the FDA, and a remarkable commercialization function that identifies industry partners who can further develop investigational therapeutics into commercial products.

The Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children's has assembled this wide array of resources to help researchers focus on being the best scientists and physicians they can be.



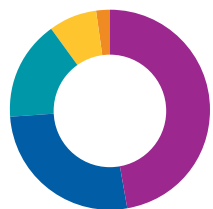
Growth of External Research Funding at Nationwide Children's



2024
EXTERNAL
AWARDS

FUNDING IN MILLIONS
BY SOURCE

Program	\$3.8
Industry	\$12.2
Other	\$24.3
Federal Other	\$40.1
NIH Prime	\$71.4



2024
\$152.0

Innovation and Commercialization at Nationwide Children's Hospital

Innovation and commercialization thrive at Nationwide Children's. Our success in translating our discoveries into commercially available products has generated significant annual commercialization revenue which is completely invested back into the research enterprise. This ensures a robust pipeline of early-stage novel diagnostics and therapeutics with the promise of providing best outcomes for children around the world. The future of pediatric care hinges on fostering a strong culture of innovation, collaboration and shared purpose.

Office of Technology Commercialization

The Nationwide Children's Office of Technology Commercialization offers expertise in technology transfer, facilitating partnerships between investors and industry to bring discoveries to patients, clinicians and scientists around the world. The office's team of 19 professionals guide inventors and partners through complex commercialization processes with creative solutions.

Midwest Pediatric Device Consortium

The Midwest Pediatric Device Consortium (MPDC) is funded by the FDA and comprised of Ohio children's hospitals, academic institutions and industry partners. Nationwide Children's and The Ohio State University are the lead partners for the consortium.

The MPDC is committed to leveraging the expertise and resources of the consortium's members to expedite the development, production, and distribution of pediatric medical devices. This is accomplished through competitive grant funding, coaching and education around pediatric medical device development, and access to industry leaders as well as clinicians.

Innovation Center

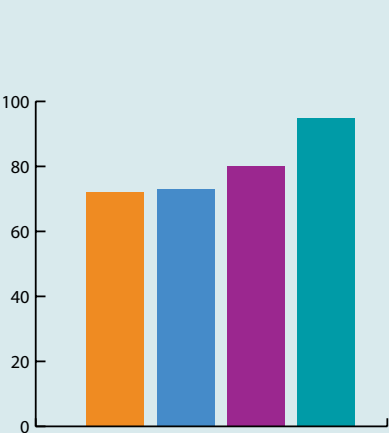
Still in its early stages, the Innovation Center is led by a Nationwide Children's pediatric surgeon and comprised of a small team of biomedical engineers. The center serves as a proof-of-concept bridge to the Office of Technology Commercialization. The group assists inventors in the medical device space from understanding need and market strategy to prototype development and beyond.

The Office of Technology Commercialization, the Innovation Center and the MPDC collaborate with Nationwide Children's faculty and staff to create a fertile ecosystem of bold thinking, pioneering concepts and successful translation of discoveries into clinical and scientific settings.



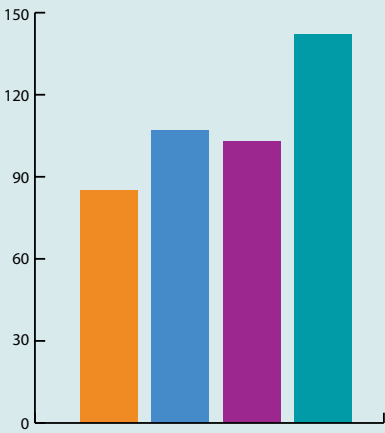
Office of Technology Commercialization Output

DISCLOSURES

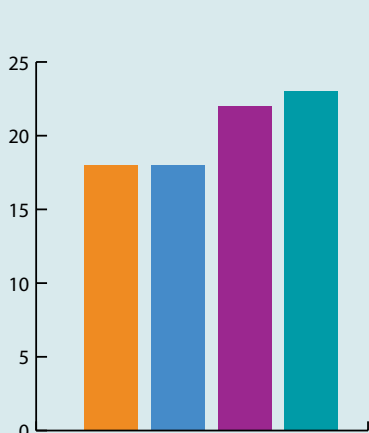


CONTRIBUTORS

A contributor is any Nationwide Children's faculty or staff member who submitted one or more invention disclosures.

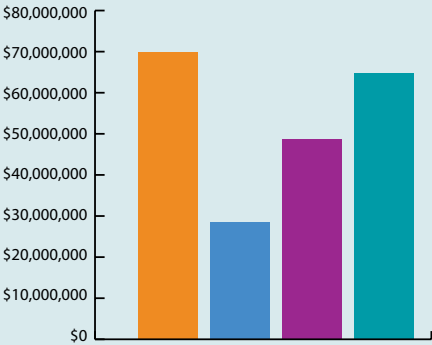


NEW DEALS

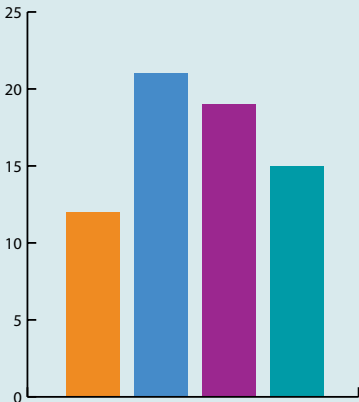


2021 2022 2023 2024

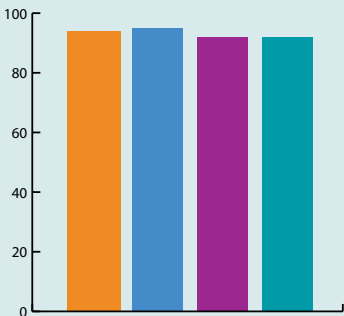
TOTAL REVENUE



U.S. PATENTS ISSUED



U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED*



**Per AUTM definitions, Patent Cooperation Treaties are included in these metrics.*

Office of Technology Commercialization Output and Startups

Office of Technology Commercialization

- Two of the first eight FDA-approved gene therapies were developed here
 - Zolgensma® for patients with spinal muscular atrophy
 - Elevidys® for patients with Duchenne muscular dystrophy
- 2024 AUTM Better World Project Finalist
- 907 issued patents worldwide
- 19 active startups
- 3 medical devices on the market

GENE THERAPIES



ACQUIRED GENE THERAPY START-UPS



(Acquired by Novartis)



(Acquired by Sarepta)



(Acquired by Amicus)

INFECTIOUS DISEASE



CANCER



OTHER THERAPEUTICS



MEDICAL DEVICES



OTHER



The Role

The essential functions of the vice president for Innovation and Technology Commercialization include:

- Providing direct management, guidance and supervision to the Office of Technology Commercialization and Innovation Center, including budget development, performance measurement, policy formulation and regulatory compliance.
- Enabling and supporting Office of Technology Commercialization leadership to ensure that the licensing professionals in the office are effectively:
 - o Evaluating new technology disclosures to determine strength of intellectual property and commercial viability;
 - o Marketing and licensing Nationwide Children's intellectual property; and
 - o Appropriately applying deal structure to licensing opportunities.
- Enabling and supporting Innovation Center leadership to ensure that the center serves as an effective bridge to potential industry partners, facilitating both inside-out and outside-in innovation.
- Building functional partnerships with various sector-specific innovation initiatives within the Nationwide Children's system.
- In collaboration with other Nationwide Children's senior leaders oversee and manage the hospital's internal investment mechanisms to ensure maximum impact from all institutional innovation-focused initiatives, and oversee and manage the allocation of external investments by Rev1 Ventures
- Facilitating strategic partnerships with both the for-profit and not-for-profit sector, focusing on key industry players that have a strategic focus that synergizes with Nationwide Children's.
- Establishing Nationwide Children's as a highly visible producer of technologies that are investable by the venture capital community as well as other sources of commercial funding.
- Managing Nationwide Children's relationship with state and local stakeholders including the Ohio Department of Development, Rev1 Ventures, CincyTech, JumpStart, JobsOhio, Ohio Life Sciences, and Ohio Discovery Corridor, and is responsible for ensuring the promotion of Nationwide Children's as a significant participant in the Ohio commercialization ecosystem and beyond.
- Ensuring that the Office of Technology Commercialization and the Innovation Center conduct educational programs for faculty and staff that will provide an advanced level of knowledge relating to intellectual property and technology commercialization.
- Implementing and operating a programmatic infrastructure for selecting, funding, and developing high-potential technology programs with the purpose of increasing their commercial potential to be out-licensed or be the basis for a new venture.
- Working and coordinating with executive leadership from various aspects of the Nationwide Children's system to ensure that innovation activities are aligned with the mission of the hospital while also advocating for support and cooperation on strategic innovation-related opportunities for Nationwide Children's.
- Regularly reporting to the Abigail Wexner Research Institute Board of Directors with updates on technology commercialization efforts.

The future of pediatric care hinges on fostering a strong culture of innovation, collaboration and shared purpose.

Qualifications and Experience

Vice president candidates should demonstrate advanced executive leadership skills in a matrixed academic research or industry setting; outstanding verbal and written communication skills; a high level of professionalism and collaborative leadership style; a track record of experience with the interactions between academia and industry, particularly as it relates to new start-up formation, and licensing of intellectual property.

Doctorate or terminal professional degree in a health professional, legal, biomedical science or technology development field is preferred.

Skills and experience should include:

- A collegial, highly collaborative, and visible leadership style.
- Exceptional communication skills, with an ability to listen and tailor information to specific audiences.
- A strong understanding of intellectual property management and commercial translation of early-stage asset portfolios.
- Extensive business or technology development experience (10 years), with at least 5 years in a leadership role.
- Experience negotiating licenses and commercialization agreements in an academic or industry setting (10 years).
- Experience developing and negotiating strategic partnership initiatives at the organizational level.



Institutional Leadership



Tim Robinson, Chief Executive Officer, Nationwide Children's Hospital: Mr. Robinson first joined Nationwide Children's in 1995 and has helped the hospital transform from an important regional children's health care system into a preeminent academic medical center. In his nearly 30 years with Nationwide Children's, Mr. Robinson has held the titles of assistant treasurer, senior vice president, executive vice president, and chief financial and administrative officer. He is credited with building the hospital's investment portfolio from \$100 million to over \$3 billion and leading the hospital to earn an Aa2 bond rating consistently since 2001. In 2022, he was named to Modern Healthcare's "100 Most Influential People in Healthcare."



Dennis Durbin, MD, MSCE, President, The Abigail Wexner Research Institute: Dr. Durbin also serves as professor and vice-chair for research in the Department of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and holds the Abigail S. Wexner Endowed Chair in Pediatric Research. He oversees AWRI's vision and strategic direction, including the further integration of research and clinical care at Nationwide Children's which is at the heart of the hospital's strategic priorities. Dr. Durbin represents the research institute in its ever-growing relationship with The Ohio State University, with the evolving biotechnology ecosystem in central Ohio, and our peer pediatric research institutions on a national level. Working with research center directors, he promotes the continued growth of the research institute through the recruitment of basic scientists; clinical investigators; and behavioral health and health equity researchers to expand and deepen our scientific expertise.



Catherine Krawczeski, MD, Chief of Pediatrics and Physician-in-Chief, Nationwide Children's Hospital: Dr. Krawczeski also serves as chair of the Department of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. In these roles, she provides clinical and academic oversight for over 650 pediatric faculty and works with hospital leadership to implement departmental strategies. She joined Nationwide Children's in 2018 as division chief in Cardiology. Dr. Krawczeski holds the Ann I. Wolfe Endowed Chair in Research Leadership and is recognized as an international expert in pediatric cardiac critical care and in the study of acute kidney injury in critical cardiac illness.



Oluyinka O. Olutoye, MD, Surgeon-in-Chief, Nationwide Children's Hospital

Dr. Olutoye leads one of the largest children's hospital surgery departments in the world. He is a renowned fetal and neonatal surgeon bringing specialized clinical and research experience to the Fetal Center at Nationwide Children's Hospital. He also is a professor and the E. Thomas Boles Jr. chair of pediatric surgery at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. Prior to joining Nationwide Children's, Dr. Olutoye served as co-director of the Fetal Center and the immediate past president of the medical staff at Texas Children's Hospital.



Joanne Turner, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer, Abigail Wexner Research Institute: Dr. Turner is committed to sustaining a research environment that supports a culture of learning, curiosity and discovery, and the infrastructure to move research from discovery to clinical applications. Prior to joining Nationwide Children's in 2024, she was the executive vice president for research and a professor at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute in San Antonio. Prior to that role, she was on the faculty at The Ohio State University for 14 years, rising to the rank of tenured professor in the Department of Microbial Infection and Immunity. She holds the Elizabeth M. and Richard M. Ross Endowed Chair in Pediatric Research.



Cynthia Gerhardt, PhD, Chief Clinical Research Officer, Nationwide Children's Hospital: As CCRO, Dr. Gerhardt focuses on the development and oversight of clinical research operations across Nationwide Children's. She also supervises the Biostatistics Core, Clinical Research Services and Human Research Protection Program. Dr. Gerhardt joined Nationwide Children's in 2009 first as a principal investigator and later as director of the Center for Biobehavioral Health. She holds the Janet Orttung-Morrow, MD and Grant Morrow, III, MD Endowed Chair in Pediatric Behavioral Health and is a professor of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University.



Peter White, PhD, Chief Data Sciences Officer, Nationwide Children's Hospital: Dr. White leads biomedical data science initiatives and is responsible for building and executing a comprehensive data science strategy, including the integration and analysis of disparate big data sources and using artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques for the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric diseases. Prior to being named CDSO, Dr. White was the senior director, Computational Genomics Group, in the Rasmussen Institute for Genomic Medicine at Nationwide Children's. He is the Battelle Endowed Chair in Quantitative and Computational Biology at Nationwide Children's and a professor of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University.



Amy J. Roscoe, Vice President of Strategic Planning and Finance, Abigail Wexner Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital: Amy Roscoe currently serves as the vice president of Research Administration and Operations at the Abigail Wexner Research Institute (AWRI) with over 18 years of progressive experience in research operations, financial management, and planning. She started her career in the clinical laboratory at The Ohio State University Hospitals before moving into health care administration where she spent 13 years in a variety of finance, contract management, and physician relations roles. She is currently responsible for financial planning, accounting, sponsored programs, research and facility operations, training, and human resources management within AWRI.

The Environment: Columbus, Ohio

Columbus – the state capital of Ohio – is the second largest city in the Midwest and the fourteenth most populous city in the United States. It is a global city fueled by a highly educated workforce and a diverse mix of ethnicities and foreign-born residents.

The city is now home to two contract development manufacturing organizations (CDMOs) - Andelyn Biosciences and Forge Biologics. Sarepta Therapeutics, headquartered in Cambridge, MA, located their Genetic Therapies Center of Excellence in Columbus in 2021.

A key differentiator that sets Columbus apart is the “Columbus Way” – the practice of community stewardship, anchored by a set of values and principles that power progress in the region. These values include ambition, collaboration, fellowship, inclusivity and common good.

Columbus Accolades:

- “A hidden gem in plain sight” (*Forbes*)
- #4 City for Young Professionals (*Forbes*)
- #2 City for Commerce (*Site Selection Magazine*)
- #5 City for New College Graduates (*New York Times*)
- #8 Most Climate-Resilient City (*Architectural Digest*)
- Winner of US Department of Transportation’s First-Ever Smart City Challenge



Living in Columbus At-a-Glance:

- 47% of jobs are in health, education, government and professional services sectors
- \$1,200 median monthly rent
- \$226,207 average home sale price
- Average Commute = 26 minutes
- Median Age = 35
- Score of 100 on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index
- 20+ Metro Parks: "21 Best Urban Parks + Trails for City Dwellers" (Men's Journal)
- More than 50 colleges and universities

- The Columbus Region has earned a national reputation for its energetic blend of arts and culture: the #1 science center; #1 public library; and even the #1 ice cream; Third best beer city and a top 10 public market (*US News & World Report*); Home to more fashion designers than any U.S. city, outside of New York and Los Angeles.
- Sports teams for every season: Columbus Crew SC (MLS), Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL), Columbus Clippers (MiLB), Columbus Fury (Pro Volleyball Federation) and the Ohio State Buckeyes

Learn more about Columbus at the [Experience Columbus](#) Visitor Guide and more about relocation to Columbus through the [Experience Columbus Relocation Guide](#).

To Apply

Inquiries, nominations, and applications should be sent in strict confidence to:

Paul Esselman
Vice President, Physician and Executive Search
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Email: Paul.Esselman@NationwideChildrens.org
Office: (614) 722-0775

Nationwide Children's Hospital is an equal opportunity employer that values diversity. Candidates of diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.





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