Cincinnati Children’s is ranked #5 in Neurology and Neurosurgery and #3 among all Honor Roll hospitals.
No Disruption in Care Thanks to Division’s Rapid COVID Response

When COVID-19 resulted in stay-at-home orders last March, our staff had to find a way to provide care to the hundreds of children seen in our Neurology clinics each week. On average, 600 children come to our clinics weekly with conditions ranging from chronic migraine to seizure disorders and neurologic syndromes. Ensuring their continued care while maintaining their health and safety in the face of the pandemic was paramount.

Working with the hospital’s Center for Telehealth, business manager Lauren Dittman, MA, and division staff quickly learned to rearrange appointments from in-person to telemedicine visits. Within two weeks, they were up and running.

“It took a huge effort on the part of our administrative and nursing staff,” says Dittman, “but their collaborative spirit made this achievement possible.” In the first week of virtual visits, they arranged 175 telehealth appointments — 84 percent of that week’s total volume.

The transition to telemedicine has been so successful, Dittman says, the division is evaluating whether virtual visits might work well for some patients on a permanent basis. “Patients and physicians who at first were skeptical quickly realized that transitioning appropriate patient visits to an electronic interaction was highly effective.”