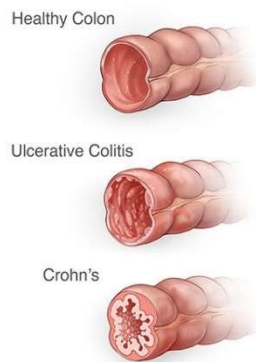


Treatment Overview for Inflammatory Bowel Disease

When a child or adolescent is diagnosed with [inflammatory bowel disease](#) (IBD), the entire family is affected. That's why at CHOC, we provide specialized IBD treatment and care.



IBD, which includes Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, is a chronic inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal tract. The immune system works as a network of cells and tissues to defend the body from infection. In inflammatory diseases, like IBD, problems with the immune system cause the body's antibodies and immune cells to mistake its own healthy cells as invaders. The immune system cells then attack the body's healthy cells, causing swelling or inflammation that can negatively impact a child's quality of life.

In both Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, children have periods of no symptoms (remission) alternating with periods of inflammatory symptoms (flare).

The treatment for IBD is complex and may be different for every child. The main goals of medical treatment are to:

- Relieve symptoms
- Prevent flares
- Heal the intestine
- Keep your IBD in remission

Biologics for Inflammatory Bowel Syndrome

Biologics medications created from living organisms. Some other medications used for IBD which suppress the whole immune system. Biologics only work on specific proteins and enzymes in your body that cause inflammation.



Patient Resources

CHOC Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Program: www.choc.org/ibd

Pediatric IBD Foundation: <https://pedsibd.org/>

KidsHealth: <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/ibd.html>