

## **Pediatric gastroenterologist joins Children's Hospital, University of Florida Health**

**PENSACOLA, Fla.** (September 1, 2020) — [Pediatric gastroenterologist Amber McClain, MD](#), has joined the faculty of the University of Florida College of Medicine, which is affiliated with the Studer Family Children's Hospital at Ascension Sacred Heart. Dr. McClain will see patients in the Children's Hospital and in her new outpatient office in the Pediatric Specialist Tower, 5153 N. Ninth Ave., on the Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola campus.

As a pediatric gastroenterologist, Dr. McClain diagnoses and treats children with conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease, chronic constipation and diarrhea, eosinophilic esophagitis, gastroesophageal reflux disease (reflux or GERD), acute or chronic abdominal pain, bleeding from the gastrointestinal tract, short bowel syndrome, pancreatic insufficiency (including cystic fibrosis) and pancreatitis, liver disease, nutritional problems (including malnutrition, failure to thrive, and obesity) and feeding disorders.

Dr. McClain joins the office of pediatric gastroenterologists Dr. Alan Sacks and Dr. Sheryl DeLeon-Dial and Brent Thompson, PA. To schedule an appointment with Dr. McClain or other UF Health pediatric specialists at Ascension Sacred Heart, call 850-416-1575.

Dr. McClain is a fellowship-trained and board-certified pediatric gastroenterologist. She graduated cum laude with her bachelor's degree in biology from Queens University of Charlotte in North Carolina, where she was named Academic All-American for cross country and achieved the Carolinas-Virginia Athletic Conference Presidential Honor Roll. She received her medical degree from the Florida State University College of Medicine in Tallahassee. She completed pediatric residency training at the University of Florida at Orlando Health, and she completed a pediatric gastroenterology fellowship at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Her research has been published in medical journals such as *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology* and the *Journal of Pediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition*. She is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition.

Through its affiliation with UF Health, the Children's Hospital provides specialized pediatric care for children across 14 pediatric subspecialties. To find a doctor, call 850-416-1575 or visit [studerfamilychildrenshospital.com](http://studerfamilychildrenshospital.com).

UF Health Shands Children's Hospital is recognized among the nation's best hospitals by U.S. News & World Report in three pediatric medical specialties. In addition to pediatric specialty care, Sacred Heart and UF Health collaborate on a kidney transplant program to benefit the thousands of individuals across the Southeast awaiting a lifesaving transplant. Ascension Sacred Heart's pediatric, OB/GYN and internal medicine physician residency programs are also affiliated with the UF College of Medicine.

As Northwest Florida's only children's hospital, the Studer Family Children's Hospital includes a pediatric emergency department, Level III neonatal intensive care unit, medical/surgical beds, observation beds, a pediatric imaging department, pharmacy, inpatient rehabilitation gym, child life playrooms, outpatient lab services and a new family-friendly dining venue. More than 120 pediatric doctors serve on the children's hospital's medical staff, caring for kids across 30 pediatric specialties. For more information, visit [studerfamilychildrenshospital.com](http://studerfamilychildrenshospital.com).

### **About Ascension Sacred Heart**

In Florida, Ascension operates Ascension Sacred Heart based in Pensacola and Ascension St. Vincent's based in Jacksonville. Together, Ascension Florida operates seven hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, and employs more than 11,000 associates. Across the region, Ascension Sacred Heart and Ascension St. Vincent's have served North Florida communities for more than 145 years. In fiscal year 2019, they provided nearly \$180 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension ([www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 150,000 associates and 40,000 aligned providers. The national health system operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 150 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 20 states and the District of Columbia. For more information on Ascension Sacred Heart, visit <https://healthcare.ascension.org>.

### **About University of Florida Health**

UF Health is the Southeast's most comprehensive academic health center. With main campuses in Gainesville and Jacksonville, UF Health includes six health colleges, nine research centers and institutes, 10 hospitals, including two teaching hospitals and five specialty hospitals, and a host of physician medical practices and outpatient services throughout North Central, Central and Northeast Florida. Our mission is to promote health through outstanding and high-quality patient care, innovative and rigorous education in the health professions and biomedical sciences, and high-impact research across the spectrum of basic, translational and clinical investigation. Visit [www.UFHealth.org](http://www.UFHealth.org) to learn more.

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