

Children's Inpatient Pain Service (ChIPS) – Referral Criteria

Guidelines for referring patients to the program with unmanaged or anticipated pain due to:

1. Upcoming surgery or surgery within past 2 weeks with inadequate pain management
2. Complex pain
3. Risk for chronic pain
4. Parental catastrophizing

Surgeries with increased risk for persistent post-surgical pain in children:

- Scoliosis
- Orthopedic procedures – Osteotomies, complex hip surgeries, limb lengthening procedures
- Thoracic procedures – VATS, thoracotomy
- General surgery – Laparotomy, complex urological procedures
- Organ transplant
- Trauma

Post-surgical scenarios for referral:

- Reports struggling with postsurgical pain more than is typical
- Surgical pain does not appear to be resolving
- Difficulty weaning off opioids after surgery
- Concern about possible opioid misuse