

A Family's Guide to the Pediatric Resource Center

What is the Pediatric Resource Center (PRC)?

The Pediatric Resource Center is a special program designed to provide child-friendly, specialized medical evaluations for children who may have experienced child physical abuse, sexual abuse/assault and neglect. The PRC has medical providers with specialized training and expertise in child abuse pediatrics. The PRC also has case coordinators who provide medical case management services before, during and after the PRC medical evaluation.



Why is My Child Being Examined?

Your child has been referred to the Pediatric Resource Center (PRC) for a child-friendly, specialized medical exam. The exam can help determine your child's health status. It will also help determine the need for medical treatment. This exam may also be an important component of a child abuse investigation because the exam may show that there is physical evidence that your child has been physically or sexually abused.

Will the Exam Prove My Child Was Abused?

The PRC healthcare provider will examine your child for signs of trauma, sexually-transmitted diseases, and unmet medical needs resulting from the abuse. The exam may not reveal physical evidence of trauma, but a normal exam does not mean that the abuse did not occur, or that your child is not telling the truth.

What should I tell my Child Before the Exam?

Please tell your child that he/she is going to a doctor's office to make sure they are healthy. We will create a medical plan based on your child's unique situation. Our staff will talk about the medical plan with you and your child when you arrive at the PRC. The most important thing is for you to be supportive and calm when talking to your child about the exam, so your child will be more relaxed.

What Should We Expect at the Medical Exam?

Every child who is seen at the PRC is assigned a case coordinator, who will meet with the caregiver(s) and the child prior to the exam to explain the procedure and medical equipment used during the PRC evaluation. The healthcare provider, who is specially-trained in the area of child physical or sexual abuse, will take a past medical history from the child's caregiver, and from the child depending upon his/her age and ability. If the child agrees, the parent or caregiver will wait in the waiting room during the child's exam. The healthcare provider will complete a general physical exam, which may include a genital/rectal exam with the use of a colposcope. A colposcope is a binocular instrument, which uses a light and magnifying lens to examine the genital and anal areas. The entire process may take approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours, depending upon the age and cooperation of your child. If you will be bringing other children with you to the appointment, we encourage you to also bring an adult who can wait in the waiting room with the other children.

Who Pays for the Exam?

PRC exam services are provided regardless of your ability to pay and you **will not** receive a bill for the exam.



Who Pays for Laboratory and X-ray?

If your child was evaluated for acute sexual assault, the voucher provided will cover all follow-up medical costs for 90 days. If your child is evaluated for another reason, PRC staff will assist you with obtaining coverage through your insurance and/or accessing financial assistance programs. We will make every effort to minimize your out-of-pocket costs related to laboratory and x-ray services.



What I should I bring to the Visit?

Please bring your child's insurance card to the appointment.
Bring your child's favorite toy or blanket for comfort.
If there is a favorite book or music that calms your child.

What Happens After the Exam?

The PRC healthcare provider may recommend additional evaluation or treatment. It is your responsibility to complete any such recommendations. The results of your child's exam may not be available to you immediately following the exam; however, the PRC case coordinator will notify you of the results of the exam when all of the steps of the evaluation are completed.

Who Will Receive the Information?

The Pediatric Resource Center obeys all laws of confidentiality. We are obligated by law to share the results with mandated authorities, which may include the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), law enforcement, and the State's Attorney's Office. The case coordinator will request that you sign consents to exchange information with all of the involved parties in order to best serve your child. Please discuss any questions or concerns you may have about confidentiality with the case coordinator.

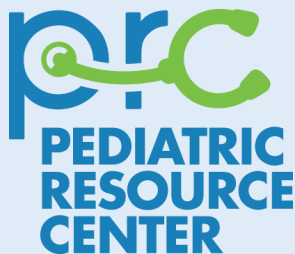
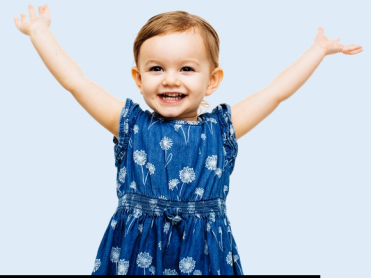
How do I Get to the PRC?

From I-74 (Westbound): Take Exit 92A (Knoxville Avenue). Turn right at the first stoplight onto Pennsylvania. Go straight through the next stoplight (at Berkeley). Drive approximately two blocks and then turn right onto Missouri. Turn left at the next corner onto Armstrong and travel to the middle of the next block. Our building is on the right. There is a sign at the entrance that says, Entrance 1, 320 E. Armstrong. Enter the building through the red door and take the elevator to the second floor.

From I-74 (Eastbound): Take Exit 92A (Knoxville Avenue). This will take you to a stoplight. Cross the intersection straight ahead onto Pennsylvania Avenue. Go straight through the next stoplight (at Berkeley). Drive approximately two blocks and then turn right onto Missouri. Turn left at the next corner onto Armstrong and travel to the middle of the next block. Our building is on the right. There is a sign at the entrance that says, Entrance 1, 320 E. Armstrong. Enter the building through the red door and take the elevator to the second floor.

From Highway 40 South (Knoxville Avenue): Follow Route 40 South. As you near downtown, move to the left lane. Turn left at Pennsylvania Avenue. Go straight through the next stoplight (at Berkeley). Drive approximately two blocks and then turn right onto Missouri. Turn left at the next corner onto Armstrong and travel to the middle of the next block. Our building is on the right. There is a sign at the entrance that says, Entrance 1, 320 E. Armstrong. Enter the building through the red door and take the elevator to the second floor.

For directions from Route 24, Route 29, or Route 116, please call the Pediatric Resource Center at 309-624-9595 or 1.877.262.6122.



Clinic Address: 320 E Armstrong Ave.
Peoria, IL 61603

Mailing Address: 530 NE Glen Oak Ave.
Peoria, IL 61637

Telephone: 309-624-9595

Website: PediatricResourceCenter.org