

Duke Skull Base Center

Internationally recognized for its leadership in diagnosing and treating cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leaks



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Overview

The Duke Skull Base Center at Duke Health is internationally recognized for its leadership in diagnosing and treating cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leaks. It offers a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach that integrates management of the underlying cause with advanced surgical techniques and cutting-edge imaging to ensure optimal outcomes with low recurrence rates.

Key Capabilities

Advanced Surgical Techniques: Repair skull base defects with low recurrence rates.

Innovative Reconstruction: Pioneered novel flap techniques to minimize morbidity and enhance recovery.

Comprehensive Screening: Evaluates for conditions like increased intracranial pressure and transverse sinus stenosis using magnetic resonance venography (MRV) and venous sinus pressure monitoring using cerebral venogram.

Minimally Invasive Interventions: Includes catheterbased stenting of cerebral venous stenosis and autologous blood injections for spinal CSF leaks.

Diagnostic & Treatment Highlights

Neuroradiology: World-renowned team uses advanced imaging to locate CSF leaks, detect underlying causes such transverse sinus stenosis and increased intracranial hypertension and guide repairs.

Neuro-ophthalmology: Assesses optic nerves and visual fields to prevent vision loss from elevated CSF pressure.



Multidisciplinary Team

Patients benefit from seamless access to:

- Dedicated skull base nurse navigators to facilitate patient access and care delivery
- Otolaryngologists with special training in rhinology and neurotology
- Skull base specialists
- Neuroradiologists
- Neurovascular neurosurgeons
- Neuro-ophthalmologists

Pre-Consultation Requirements:

- Referral (preferably from a Neurologist, ENT, or Neurosurgeon, or family physician/PCP)
- MRI of the brain with and without contrast,
 CT scan of the sinuses without contrast performed within the last 6 to 12 months We MUST have images on a CD mailed to our office, the report is not sufficient. Imaging can be shared electronically through PowerShare
- Copies of clinic notes, and imaging reports related to your symptoms (Can be faxed to 919-684-9108)
- Copy of front and back of insurance card
- CT Myelogram/MRI brain: (not required, but must submit if performed)
- Beta 2 transferrin results, if available

To refer a patient, call Duke's Consultation and Referral Center at 919-681-9928 or log into Duke MedLink.