# Guide to Clinic Visits



A physician who truly understands Rett syndrome can make a big difference in your loved one's life. Expert Rett providers can help direct your child's healthcare, answer questions, and provide resources for Rett syndrome. Most clinics recommend annual visits to check in with your child and get to know your family better. Use this guide to prepare for these visits whether you are looking to visit a Rett clinic for the first time or have been taking your child to Rett clinic appointments for years.



# **FIND A CLINIC**

The International Rett Syndrome Foundation (IRSF) has designated 18 Centers of Excellence (CoE) across the United States to make it easier for families to identify an expert provider for their loved one with Rett syndrome. To find a CoE near you, see listing on back side.



# **ASK BEFORE YOUR VISIT**

Call the clinic coordinator at the CoE you are interested in visiting to discuss your child's current status and needs.

- What kind of insurance is accepted at the clinic? Is there a financial assistance program?
- What must be done before the visit?
- Do certain diagnostic tests need to be completed? Is a genetic testing report required?
- Is there intake paperwork to complete?
- What does a typical visit look like? Is there a schedule available?
- What specialists will we see during the visit? What if a specialist we want to see isn't a part of our clinic visit?
- Can your clinic help me find specialists closer to my home and will your clinic work with them?

# COMMON CLINIC SPECIALTIES

- Neurology
- Gastroenterology
- Genetics
- Physical Medicine
- AAC/Speech Therapy



# **FACILITATE YOUR CLINIC VISIT**

- Write questions for the team ahead of time and bring them with you to the visit.
- Ask about nearby recommended restaurants, attractions, and available discounts.
- Request special accommodations if needed (e.g., larger room, wheelchair-friendly taxi service, etc.).
- Clinic visits may take several hours. Pack adequate supplies for your child (diapers, clothes, feeding supplies, etc.), items to comfort your child and for yourself as well (books, toys, food, electronics, snacks, etc.).



# ASK AT THE END OF YOUR VISIT

- Will I receive a written report with recommendations?
- Is the CoE team available to answer questions and concerns moving forward? How do I contact my CoE team?
- How will the CoE team of experts work with our local care team?
- How often will we visit the CoE experts at your Rett clinic? Are telehealth visits available?



# SUPPORT YOUR LOVED ONE'S HEALTHCARE

- Download the <u>Rett Syndrome Primary Care Guidelines</u> to share with your child's primary care doctor.
- Check out <u>Rett Research Ready™</u> and ask about clinical trials and other opportunities to participate in research such as the <u>Rett Syndrome Registry</u>.
- Identify <u>resources that are available in your state</u> and connect with your <u>state</u>'s family empowerment representative.

# RETT SYNDROME REGISTRY™ (RSR)

The RSR was designed to gather caregiver reported information as well as clinical data collected as part of a normal clinic visit at a CoE. This combination of data is essential for clinical trial design to increase the chances of clinical trial success and to help bring curative treatment options to families. Ask your CoE about participating.



#### ALABAMA - BIRMINGHAM

UAB/Children's of Alabama Rett Syndrome Clinic - University of Alabama at Birmingham 205.638.6879

#### **CALIFORNIA - LOS ANGELES**

Rett Syndrome Clinic -Children's Hospital Los Angeles 323.361.2471

#### CALIFORNIA - OAKLAND

Katie's Clinic for Rett Syndrome – UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland 510.595.5458

## COLORADO - AURORA

Rett Clinic -Children's Hospital Colorado 720.777.4363

# **ILLINOIS - CHICAGO**

Rush Rett Care Program -Rush University Medical Center 312.942.3034

# MARYLAND - BALTIMORE

Rett and Related Disorders Clinic -Kennedy Krieger Institute 443.923.2778

#### **MASSACHUSETTS - BOSTON**

Comprehensive Rett Syndrome Clinic -Boston Children's Hospital 617.355.2063

# MINNESOTA - ST. PAUL

Rett and Rett Related Disorders Clinic -Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare 651.228.6455

#### MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS

Rett Spectrum Clinic -St. Louis Children's Hospital 314.454.6120

#### **NEW YORK - BRONX**

Tri-State Rett Syndrome Center -Montefiore Medical Center 718.920.4378

#### NORTH CAROLINA - CHAPEL HILL

Rett Syndrome Clinic - The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 984.974.1401

#### **OHIO - CINCINNATI**

Vinaya Rett Syndrome and Related Spectrum Disorders Clinic - Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center 513.636.4222

# **OHIO - COLUMBUS**

Rett Syndrome Clinic -Nationwide Children's Hospital 614.722.4625

# PENNSYLVANIA - PHILADELPHIA

Rett Syndrome Clinic -Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 267,426,1242

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA - GREENWOOD**

*Greenwood Genetic Center* 864.941.8100

# **TENNESSEE - NASHVILLE**

Vanderbilt Rett Syndrome Clinic -Vanderbilt University Medical Center 615.936.5536

#### **TEXAS - DALLAS**

Rett and Related Disorders Clinic -University of Texas Southwestern/ Children's Health Dallas 214.456.2768

#### **TEXAS - HOUSTON**

Blue Bird Circle Rett Center -Texas Children's Hospital 832.822.7388

For the most up to date information, visit rettsyndrome.org/clinics.

# ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL RETT SYNDROME FOUNDATION

As the leading Rett syndrome research and advocacy organization, the International Rett Syndrome Foundation (IRSF) builds upon our nearly 40-year commitment to breakthrough discoveries and life-changing advancements in research toward a cure while supporting families affected by Rett syndrome. Through our legacy foundation pioneers, we have invested over \$54M in research that has led to identifying Rett syndrome's cause, proving Rett syndrome is reversible in mice, and developing multiple clinical trials for Rett syndrome. We fight for families living with Rett syndrome and a world without it. Learn more at <a href="https://www.rettsyndrome.org">www.rettsyndrome.org</a>.