The CHOC Psychiatric Consultation Line (CPCL) is a phone consultation service provided by CHOC Children’s that assists pediatricians who care for patients with behavioral or psychiatric issues in a primary care setting.

The underlying principle of the CPCL is that mental health care for children and adolescents is a critical component of their overall health care. Access to child psychiatry and appropriate mental health services can be both complex and limited. The goal of CPCL is to offer this critical support to pediatricians.

**HOW IT WORKS**

The line is answered by a social worker who will work with you to understand the reason for your call and how CPCL can best assist you. The social worker will give suggestions for resources within the community and CHOC. A CHOC board-certified child and adolescent psychiatrist will also be on call for same-day consultation for any psychiatric questions.

**QUESTIONS THAT CAN BE ADDRESSED**

- Given a set of symptoms and patterns of behavior, which screening tool should I use and what is the diagnosis?
- What are the best treatment options?
- In a psychiatric emergency, what are my options? Should I send the patient to the ER?
- What are the kinds of resources available for this patient and family?
- How do I answer the family’s questions if I’m not sure of the answer?
- Should I start this patient on medication? If so, which one and what dose?
- My patient is already on psychotropic medication, but I have questions about side effects, dosing, and whether this is the best medication choice.

657-390-3835

Available from 8:30am-5pm, Monday-Friday (excluding major holidays)

CPCL via pingmd®: CHOC Psychiatric Consultation Line