



Kim E. Nichols, M.D.

Hereditary Cancer Predisposition Clinic director
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Kim Nichols, M.D., serves as the director of the Hereditary Cancer Predisposition Clinic at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. She is a pediatrician and a global leader in the emerging field of childhood hereditary cancer predisposition.

The clinic serves children who may have inherited genetic mutations that increase their cancer risk, helping families understand why their children developed the disease. The staff also sees children who do not have cancer but have genetic conditions or family histories that put them at increased risk for developing it.

Nichols is also the principal investigator of the Genomes for Kids (G4K) research study, which is using next-generation sequencing to pinpoint the specific gene changes that cause cancer to develop. Armed with those details, scientists will be able to understand more about why tumors form and develop better treatments. G4K is the first step in a clinical genomics effort that will usher in a novel way of treating children with cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

In addition to her work at St. Jude, Nichols holds an executive board membership for the Histiocyte Society, from which she received the Nezelof Prize for Basic Research in 2013. She was also elected to the Society for Pediatric Research in 2011. Nichols received her medical degree from Duke University School of Medicine in Durham, North Carolina, and completed her residency and clinical fellowship in hematology oncology at The Children's Hospital and Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Massachusetts.