Cystic Fibrosis Center Ranks in Top 10 Nationally

According to a report provided by the national Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, both the Pediatric and Adult Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Programs at Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo have lung function (median FEV1) amongst the top 10 nationally.

The report, which compares our 2013 program statistics to all other CF Centers across the United States, ranks our Pediatric CF Program at 4th in the country and our Adult CF Program at 9th. There are a total of 120 CF Centers nationwide, all with pediatric programs; 104 of these Centers also have adult programs.

CF is a disease that affects many parts of the body, but the lung involvement makes it a life-shortening illness. Lung function is measured in a variety of ways, but the most important measure is called FEV1 (Forced Expiratory Volume in 1 second) which determines how much air comes out of the lungs when a patient blows hard and fast. If the patient has wheezing or inflammation in his/her airways, or if there is a lot of mucus blocking flow, the numbers will be lower.

“Our outcomes data has always been in the top quartile in the country,” said Danielle Goetz, MD, Cystic Fibrosis Center Director at Women & Children’s Hospital. “Our adult program lung function data has been especially good and our pediatric program has shown steady and significant increases in lung function outcomes over the past few years”.

Carla Frederick, MD, is the Director of our Adult CF Program.

Since the early 1990s, the CF Center has been involved in almost 50 clinical trials and has employed quality improvement methods and family-oriented care to help achieve the best possible clinical outcomes for our patients. The Center is also active in many research studies, and is at the forefront of some exciting new drugs that have the potential to change the course of CF.

One of the first centers of its kind in the United States, the Cystic Fibrosis Center at Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo has always been at the vanguard of patient care, research, and education. Composed of a multidisciplinary team of medical professionals, the Center strives to provide exemplary family-centered care to patients, to participate in research for the improvement of care and treatment, and to educate patients, families, the medical community, and the public about the disease. The CF Center is presently one of just 120 nationally accredited CF centers in the country and one of 77 accredited therapeutic development network centers. For more information, visit www.wchob.org/lungcenter.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is a nonprofit donor-supported organization dedicated to attacking cystic fibrosis from every angle. The Foundation’s focus is to support the development of new drugs to fight the disease, improve the quality of life for those with CF, and ultimately to find a cure. For more information, visit www.cff.org.