SJD Sant Joan de Déu Barcelona · Hospital

SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona

CHARITY REPORT 2025



Donation-funded healthcare and pediatric cancer research programmes



Childhood cancer

Developmental cancer, better known as **childhood cancer**, affects children, adolescents and young adults. It is a **disease related to human development**, **unlike adult cancer**, which is linked to aging.

Childhood cancer is a **random** disease that **cannot be prevented**.

In Spain, around **1,200 new cases** are diagnosed **every year**, with approximately **one case of childhood cancer for every 200 adult cases**. This incidence makes it a **rare disease**.

In developed countries, **8 out of 10 patients overcome the disease**, but **for many children there is still no curative treatment.**

In addition, **two out of three survivors will suffer side effects** - to a greater or lesser extent - as a result of the treatments they received.

Pediatric cancer research

Research is the only way to keep advancing our knowledge of the disease and developing new treatments so that, one day, **we can offer a cure to all patients** with minimal side effects.

Unfortunately, childhood cancer is not researched as much as adult cancer because, due to its low incidence, research into it is not economically profitable. **Pediatric cancer research advances mainly thanks to solidarity and philanthropy.**

In fact, **75% of the pediatric cancer laboratory budget** at the SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona **comes from private donations** from families and patient associations, foundations, companies and other entities





The SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona (PCCB) brings together exceptional resources to offer the best treatments, drive research and develop new advanced therapies.

The Molecular Oncology Laboratory

supports oncologists at the PCCB and other hospitals in Spain and abroad by carrying out **tumor-specific molecular analyses**. These studies enable to personalize treatments according to **each patient's genetic characteristics** and to improve key aspects such as diagnosis, prognosis, the identification of **therapeutic targets**, molecular monitoring of the disease and follow-up of **treatment response**.

- Cutting-edge molecular and genomic techniques.
- DNA methylation studies (reference center in Spain).
- Next-generation sequencing (NGS).
- Liquid biopsy (plasma, serum and cerebrospinal fluid).
- Pediatric Precision Oncology Programme.

Molecular diagnostics and precision medicine

The Pediatric Cancer Research Laboratory

investigates the origins and underlying mechanisms of pediatric cancers and pioneers innovative therapies that are more effective and less toxic for the most aggressive childhood tumors..

- **Over 50 professionals and 23 years of experience** in translational research.
- **One of the largest pediatric biobanks in Europe,** with over 4,500 samples collected since 2003 (tissue, blood, cerebrospinal fluid, etc.).
- Extensive collection of **patient-derived preclinical models**, with over 125 PDX models.
- High-impact scientific publications and international collaborations with centers of excellence in biomedical research.
- **Seven in-house advanced therapy clinical trials** (dendritic cell vaccines, CAR-T immunotherapy and oncolytic viruses, among others).

Pediatric tumor biobank

Research laboratory

The Advanced Therapies Platform

funded by donations, began operating in 2024. Covering 1,280 m^2, it has **four cleanrooms** designed for the **production of cell, gene and tissue-engineering advanced therapies**. These therapies offer new hope to patients who do not respond to conventional treatments, providing highly innovative and personalized therapeutic options. One example is CAR-T cell immunotherapy for patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia that is resistant to standard therapies. Similar projects are currently being developed for different types of solid tumors.

Advanced Therapies Platform

The Pediatric Clinical Research Unit

with **over 300 active clinical trials** in 30 therapeutic areas, is **the largest in Spain and one of the most important in Europe**. It drives and coordinates studies that evaluate new drugs and innovative therapies under the highest scientific and ethical standards. Thanks to the Unit, advances made both in the PCCB research laboratories and in the pharmaceutical industry can reach clinical practice more quickly, offering children and adolescents with cancer **early access to innovative treatments and new therapeutic opportunities**.

Clinical Research Unit



Research projects

Scientific Director PCCB: Dr. Jaume Mora

Sarcomas and neuroblastoma

- Discovering the cell of origin of Ewing's sarcoma and rhabdomyosarcoma.
- Epigenetic therapy for Ewing's sarcoma and rhabdomyosarcoma.
- Genetic and drug screening in a Drosophila fly model of Ewing's sarcoma (IRSJD – IRBB collaborative project).
- Metastasis mechanisms in osteosarcoma (IRSJD – UB collaborative project).
- Metastasis mechanisms in neuroblastoma.
- Anti-GD2 immunotherapy against neuroblastoma.
- New in vivo screening platform for immunotherapy.

Innovative therapies for pediatric cancer

Developing more effective and safer treatments through pharmacological innovation.

- Studying of the immune microenvironment of solid tumors.
- Drug treatment for diffuse glioma-type brain tumors.
- New drug transport and delivery systems in the central nervous system.
- Improving the efficacy of CAR-T immunotherapy in Ewing's sarcoma.
- Combined therapies with oncolytic viruses (retinoblastoma, CNS tumors, osteosarcoma, etc.).
- In vivo models of pediatric cancers derived from patient biopsies.

Advanced immunotherapies for solid tumors

Development of innovative cellular immunotherapies for different types of pediatric solid tumors:

- Neuroblastoma: CAR-T cells and NK cells armed with bispecific antibodies.
- High-grade gliomas: CAR-T cells secreting activators of innate immune cells.
- Ewing's sarcoma: synthetic receptors to reprogram the tumor secretome and enhance the efficacy of CAR-T cells.
- Osteosarcoma.

Development of mRNA lipid nanoparticles to increase the immunogenicity of pediatric cancer (making tumor cells more recognizable) for the design of combined immunotherapies.

Leukemia and lymphoma

Research projects and clinical trials in high-risk lymphoblastic leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia and lymphomas (Hodgkin, non-Hodgkin, Burkitt, etc.).

- Genomic studies for improved diagnosis, prognosis and personalized treatment.
- Cell therapy: CAR-T 19 immunotherapy, bone marrow transplant.
- Prevention of treatment toxicity.
- Immuno-metabolism in pediatric leukemia.
- Immuno-epigenetics in pediatric leukemia.

Epigenetics of pediatric cancer

Deciphering the origin of pediatric cancer (IRSJD – IRBB collaborative group). Initial focus on malignant rhabdoid tumors and Ewing's sarcoma..

- Characterization of heterogeneity in rhabdoid tumors.
- 3D gastruloid models of the early stages of tumor formation.
- Identification of biomarkers and potential therapeutic targets.

Vascular tumors and malformations

Identification of new genetic and molecular causes of pediatric vascular tumors. Preclinical models. Molecular therapies.

Translational genomics

Study of pediatric solid tumors using multiomic platforms.

- Development of epigenetic classifiers for pediatric cancer (medulloblastoma, etc.).
- Mechanisms of resistance to chemotherapy and anti-GD2 immunotherapy in neuroblastoma.



Healthcare programmes

Healthcare Director PCCB: Dr. Andrés Morales

Expandedhealthcare programmes

Thanks to the support of private donations, **we have expanded our professional teams in the following areas: physiotherapy and rehabilitation, nutrition, palliative care, neuropsychology, psychology, speech therapy, social work and genetic counselling.**

UOPI

Integrative Pediatric Oncology Unit

The UOPI was launched in September 2019 to respond to the physical and emotional needs of children and adolescents with cancer, during and after their cancer treatment. It is a pioneering project in Spain and unique in its approach in Europe. The UOPI offers **complementary treatments (acupuncture and neuromodulation, essential oils, reflexology, massage, yoga**, etc.) with a **holistic, patient-centered approach**, backed by **scientific rigor** and **medical criteria**, integrated into the patient's conventional therapeutic plan.

SEGUIM

Long-term Follow-up Unit for Pediatric Cancer Patients

Created at the end of 2023 to **support children and adolescents who have overcome childhood cancer**, the SEGUIM unit aims to **prevent, detect early and treat possible side effects** resulting from the disease and the treatments received, as well as to **preserve health, improve quality of life and facilitate the transition** of adolescent patients **to adult healthcare**.

The Unit offers **comprehensive and personalized care** thanks to a **multidisciplinary team of professionals from nursing, oncology, pediatrics, psychology, neuropsychology, social work, nutrition and physical activity**.

Patients join the programme approximately one year after completing cancer treatment and receive follow-up tailored to their individual needs and to the risk of side effects associated with their diagnosis and treatment.

Hospital Amic

Humanisation programme

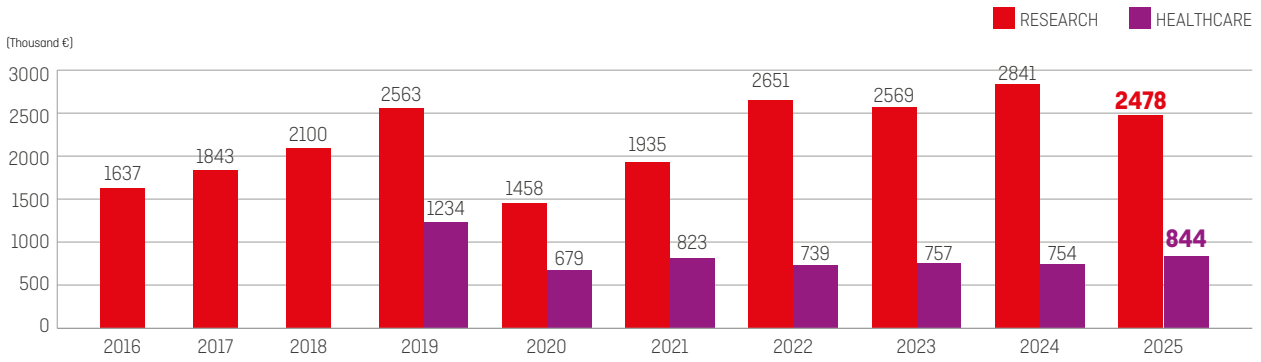
Clowns, music therapy, dog-assisted interventions, art therapy and the work of Child Life specialists are essential programmes for minimizing the impact of illness and hospitalization on our patients.

Support for families in need

Thanks to the donations we receive, we can also provide **social support to families with limited resources** whose children are admitted to our center

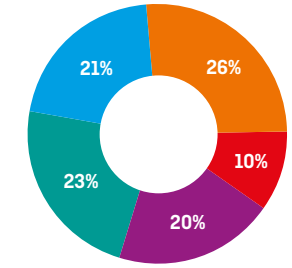
Key economic data

Record of donations



Source of donations 2025

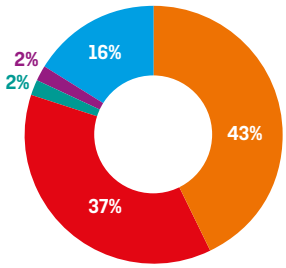
TOTAL DONATIONS
3,322 Thousand €
(2,478 Research + 844 Healthcare)



- Individuals and events
- Schools
- Family associations
- Companies
- Other entities

2025 Expenses Research Projects

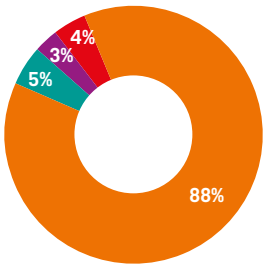
TOTAL EXPENSES
3,105 Thousand €
(Total donations: 2,478 Thousand €)



- Staffing
- Fungible and services
- Equipment
- Conferences
- Indirect expenses

2025 Expenses Healthcare Programmes

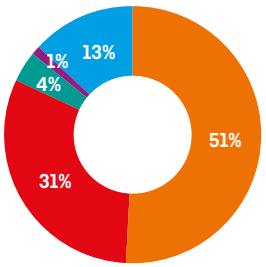
TOTAL EXPENSES
680 Thousand €
(Total donations: 844 Thousand €)



- Healthcare staff
- Social support
- Charity Fund
- Humanisation programmes

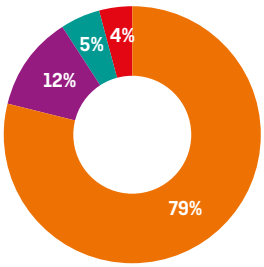
2026 Budget

RESEARCH PROJECTS
3,078 Thousand €



- Staffing
- Fungible services
- Equipment
- Conferences
- Indirect expenses

HEALTHCARE PROGRAMMES
820 Thousand €



- Healthcare staff
- Charity Fund
- Social support
- Humanisation programmes

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Donate to research projects

Donate to healthcare programmes

Remember that **your donations are eligible for significant tax deductions**, both in Personal Income Tax and in Corporate Tax, reaching up to 100% in certain cases* (individuals resident in Catalonia who donate to research projects).

Find out more by scanning the following QR codes:

General tax deductions

* Information on special deductions for research

How to collaborate



There are many ways **to support pediatric cancer research and promote several of the healthcare projects** at PCCB.

Whether you are a company, an individual, a school, a sports club or any other type of organization, we encourage you to learn about all the ways you can get involved by scanning the QR code or to contact the Fundraising Department - Obra Social Infancia.

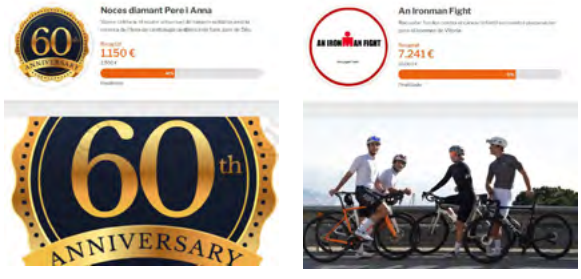
Make a difference!

Your child's school (or parents' association) **can get involved** by taking part in the

CHOCOLATADA SOLIDARIA

www.chocolatadasolidaria.org

You can turn a family celebration or sports challenge into a **fundraising event**



Create your own personalized online campaign on the hospital website

For any questions, please contact us:

Fundraising Department (Obra Social Infancia)
Hospital Sant Joan de Déu Barcelona - PCCB Building - Ground floor
93 600 63 30 - atenciondonante@sjd.es
www.sjdhospitalbarcelona.org/en/get-involved

SJD
Pediatric Cancer Center
Sant Joan de Déu · Barcelona



SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona,
a center by all, for all

The **SJD Pediatric Cancer Center Barcelona** (PCCB) is the first monographic pediatric care facility in Spain and the second largest in Europe. It is **exclusively dedicated to the treatment and research of childhood cancer.**

Based on a **multidisciplinary, highly specialized and comprehensive care model**, the center is **designed for children and adolescents with cancer** and their families, in a welcoming environment of 14,000 m² over 5 floors. It can treat up to **400 new patients each year.**



37 Rooms

8 Transplant rooms

26 Day Hospital cubicles

21 Outpatient clinics

PTA Advanced Therapies Platform

Nuclear medicine

Research laboratories

Oncology pharmacy

Playrooms and family areas

Gym

Founding donors:

Maria Àngels Recolons Morer

ΙΣΝ/SNF ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

Fundació "la Caixa"

Invest for children – Investindustrial

Rosalia Gispert Barral

FundaciónLeoMessi

FUNDACIÓN JOAN RIBAS ARAQUISTAIN

ANDBANK Private Bankers

Fundació Nou Mil·lenni

ESTEVE Advancing health together

atrys

FUNDACIÓ BARÇA

Roman Rosell Dolset

Famílies i associacions de pacients

The SJD PCCB opened its doors in June 2022 thanks to the support of civil society - foundations, companies and individuals - who donated the 37 million euros needed for its construction and equipment.







