CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF RICHMOND AT VCU

## Initial feeding clinic appointment

- The purpose of the multidisciplinary Feeding Clinic is to assess nutrition and treat medical issues related to feeding difficulties. Providers include a physician or nurse practitioner and dietitian. The team will recommend a feeding evaluation, if necessary, to evaluate oral sensory-motor and behavioral concerns or regular follow-up in feeding clinic.

## Feeding evaluation

- The purpose of the feeding evaluation is to fully assess oral sensory-motor and behavioral concerns in relation to feeding. Providers include a feeding therapist and psychologist. After all evaluations have been completed, the feeding team will recommend follow up with the medical and nutrition in follow up clinic, therapy in an outpatient setting and/or in the intensive day feeding patient program.

## Outpatient feeding therapy

- Frequency is typically 1 to 3 times per week for 45-60 minutes. Frequency of therapy will be determined during the outpatient feeding evaluation and may change over the course of treatment.
- A child may begin outpatient feeding therapy and transition to the day program if the feeding team determines the day program to be the best course of action

## Day feeding patient program

- Frequency is 3 treatment sessions per day, 5 days a week for 6-8 weeks. In addition to the therapist, services include weekly consultation with the nutritionist, medical team, psychology, and social work.
- Day program is reserved for children with severe feeding disorders and eligibility is determined after the feeding therapist, psychologist, and medical team have discussed best course of treatment
- For children who live in the area, outpatient treatment may be recommended after the conclusion of their day program admission.

## Follow-Up Feeding Clinic

- Regular follow-up with the medical and nutrition team in clinic is vital to enrollment in feeding therapy. Medical team and dietitian will continue to assess and treat issues related to feeding while in outpatient therapy and on the waitlist for therapy.