# Institute for Maternal Fetal Health at Nemours Children's Launches to Treat Babies Well Before Birth

## *The Institute at Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware Will Begin Treating Patients in Early 2026*

## *Preeminent maternal-fetal medicine specialist serves as the inaugural Elizabeth W. Snyder Endowed Chair in Fetal Therapy and Innovation*

**WILMINGTON, Del. (December 11, 2025)**–The Institute for Maternal Fetal Health at Nemours Children's launched today, offering a compassionate and personalized health care experience for mothers who receive a complex fetal diagnosis during their pregnancy. The Institute for Maternal Fetal Health and its world-renowned clinical leadership will provide state-of-the-art care for mothers and their babies at Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware, as its first location in early 2026.

"The launch of the Institute for Maternal Fetal Health at Nemours Children's will usher in a new era of cutting-edge care for mothers carrying fetuses with known congenital anomalies," said R. Lawrence Moss, MD, FACS, FAAP, President and CEO of Nemours Children's Health. "Our commitment to deliver state-of-the-art fetal interventions while surrounding the whole family with robust psychosocial support underscores our unwavering commitment to Whole Child Health."



*Julie S. Moldenhauer, MD, PMH-C*

### *Maternal Fetal Care Leadership*

Julie S. Moldenhauer, MD, PMH-C, one of the nation's foremost maternal-fetal medicine specialists and fetal interventionalists, serves as the inaugural Executive Director of the Institute for Maternal Fetal Health. Dr. Moldenhauer is triple-board certified in obstetrics and gynecology, maternal-fetal medicine, and clinical genetics.

> *"Our commitment to deliver state-of-the-art fetal interventions while surrounding the whole family with robust psychosocial support underscores our unwavering commitment to Whole Child Health," R. Lawrence Moss, MD, FACS, FAAP, President and CEO of Nemours Children's Health*

Dr. Moldenhauer holds the newly created Elizabeth W. Snyder Endowed Chair in Fetal Therapy and Innovation. Mrs. Snyder, a Delaware philanthropist and businesswoman, is a champion for the health and well-being of children and families across the region. The Snyder Chair will ensure that Nemours Children's remains at the forefront of fetal therapy and innovation, driving advancements in early diagnosis, surgical intervention, and family-centered care.

When parents receive a serious fetal diagnosis, the excitement of pregnancy can change into a frightening experience. Dr. Moldenhauer and her team use a family-centered approach to support psychosocial needs and facilitate joint decision-making. The team works to create a personalized pregnancy experience and birth plan for each family.

"I'm thrilled to lead the new Institute for Maternal Fetal Health at Nemours Children's and to further advance research and fetal intervention in this rapidly evolving field," said Dr. Moldenhauer. "Whole Child Health begins well before birth. Our goal is to transform a prenatal diagnosis into a positive outcome while recognizing that celebrating motherhood often gets overlooked after the diagnosis of a fetal condition. We are honored to provide a healthcare experience that considers the needs of each expectant mother and her family as our standard of care."

### *State-of-the-Art Care in a Calming Environment*

In early 2026, Nemours Children's Hospital, Delaware, will serve as the first location within the Institute for Maternal Fetal Health. It will provide advanced quaternary care including leading-edge multimodal fetal imaging, prenatal diagnostics, fetal intervention, high-level genetic evaluation, and complex neonatal care with comprehensive pediatric subspecialty support.

Families often feel that they've missed out on their ideal birth experience when they receive a fetal diagnosis during pregnancy or learn that their baby will require intensive care immediately after birth. The Institute will offer a calming, wellness-focused environment to help parents have the best experience possible.

After giving birth in the Advanced Delivery Unit, all mothers will be just steps away from their babies. This closeness promotes connection and wellness for both mom and baby. All essential care facilities for medically fragile infants, including the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, are adjacent.

"The establishment of this Institute marks the beginning of Nemours Children's Health becoming the nation's first multi-hospital, multistate children's health system providing such leading-edge services—and ultimately one of the nation's largest, most distinguished prenatal diagnosis and fetal intervention programs," said Katherine Deans, MD, MHSc, Senior Vice

President and Enterprise Surgeon-in-Chief for Nemours. “This elite level of care will be available to every mother whose baby needs this specialized care, and we think it will have a strong impact on outcomes.”

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**About Nemours Children's Health**

Nemours Children’s Health is one of the nation’s largest multistate pediatric health systems, which includes two freestanding children's hospitals and a network of more than 70 primary and specialty care practices. Nemours Children's seeks to transform the health of children by adopting a holistic health model that utilizes innovative, safe, and high-quality care, while also addressing children’s needs well beyond medicine. In producing the highly acclaimed, award-winning pediatric medicine podcast Well Beyond Medicine, Nemours underscores that commitment by featuring the people, programs and partnerships addressing whole child health. Nemours Children's also powers the world’s most-visited website with health information written for parents, kids and teens, Nemours KidsHealth.

The Nemours Foundation, established through the legacy and philanthropy of Alfred I. duPont, provides pediatric clinical care, research, education, advocacy, and prevention programs to the children, families and communities it serves. For more information, visit Nemours.org.

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