

Forging the NICU of the Future

## Meet Dr. Lance Prince, Visionary Neonatologist

**At Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford,** we are at a unique moment of impact. With top neonatologist Dr. Lance Prince as our leader and plans to build a state-of-the-art NICU, the stage is set to transform the way infants are treated at our hospital and across the country.

### A Full, Healthy Life for NICU Babies

In 2020, Dr. Lance Prince, one of neonatology's leading specialists, joined our team. "I'm in it to cure disease," he says. "I want to revolutionize the way we care for our tiniest patients."

His professional journey to the NICU began as a medical intern. Dr. Prince overheard two doctors talking about a child named Alberto, who had a rare kidney disease—the same disease Dr. Prince happened to be studying in the lab! He joined Alberto's care team and developed a passion for treating babies with the most complex needs. "That serendipity helped to steer my professional course. I believe I was there for a reason," he says.

Today, Dr. Prince is one of the world's preeminent neonatologists. He specializes in treating one of the most intractable challenges in the field: bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD), a chronic lung disease in babies born extremely early.

Under Dr. Prince's exceptional leadership, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford is the place that families come to for hope—to find specialized care for the toughest complications. "My ultimate goal," he says, "is that over the next 10–20 years, we will see the babies we treat grow up to be kids with no lingering health problems. You'd never be able to tell that they spent time in the NICU as infants." Philanthropy will be key to making this ambitious goal a reality.

FOR  
CHILDREN  
UNDER

5

Prematurity is the leading cause of death

10,000 – 15,000

newborns develop chronic lung disease each year

1 IN 33

babies are born with a birth defect

Lance Prince, MD, PhD, Chief,  
Neonatal and Developmental  
Medicine, Stanford, and  
Co-Director, Johnson  
Center for Pregnancy and  
Newborn Services



## A Leader's Vision

With distinguished expertise and deep-seated compassion, Dr. Prince is leading our neonatology team—already one of the best in the nation—into a new era of preeminence.



### World-Class Care for the Sickest Babies

Thanks to experts like Dr. Prince, Packard Children's offers cutting-edge care that is difficult to find anywhere else, like innovative dialysis treatment for babies with kidney failure. Children facing diagnoses that were universally fatal only a few years ago now have the potential to lead full, happy lives!

Philanthropy will also fuel Stanford-unique programs like our CRIB program (Cardiac and Respiratory Care for Infants with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia). Led by subject expert Dr. Prince, CRIB's multidisciplinary specialists work together to provide wraparound support for families of infants with chronic lung disease.



### Groundbreaking Research

Ultimately, improvements in care are driven by discoveries that start in the lab. Stanford is a research powerhouse, and Dr. Prince's team has its sights set on medical frontiers like advanced blood and urine tests to predict premature birth and using novel gene sequencing to build a personalized care plan for every infant in the NICU. Donor support will help bring exciting ideas like this from Stanford's labs to the public.



### Serving the Whole Child and Family

Having a child in the NICU is often a stressful and traumatic experience for new parents. A critical part of Dr. Prince's vision is to grow the supportive services we offer families, from music therapy to psychological counseling. Philanthropy can help expand access to these critical services.



## A LEADING-EDGE NICU FACILITY

Our bold plan to create a state-of-the-art NICU as part of the transformation of our original hospital building is a critical component of Dr. Prince's vision. His expert guidance has been key to designing this space. Most notably, we're transitioning from an open bay style NICU to all private rooms, which are proven to reduce infection risk and support breastfeeding and skin-to-skin care. The space will also allow us to continue innovating new treatment and technology, like monitoring progress with fewer needles and wires and making the NICU as "womb-like" as possible.

Donor support will be a key building block and enable Dr. Prince and his team to use this space as a launchpad for innovative care, research, and impact.

## PHILANTHROPY WILL MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

Working on the cutting edge often means that funding is difficult to obtain from risk-averse sources like government or industry. Forward-thinking philanthropists can give Dr. Prince and his team the flexibility they need to transform care for the most vulnerable newborns.

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