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Dr. Alan Cohen, the newly appointed, first ever Surgeon-in-Chief at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, focuses mainly on brain tumors and endoscopic surgery for disorders of the brain, nervous system and spinal cord. Nine-year-old Emma Anderson is currently undergoing multidisciplinary treatment for a brain tumor.

and number six in pediatrics nationwide. The Surgical Specialists' vision of creating an internationally recognized center of excellence for treating childhood disorders through surgery is becoming a reality.

Rainbow Surgical Specialists' Mission

- To deliver the finest surgical care possible.
- To promote cutting-edge surgical research leading to new and novel treatments.
- To provide state-of-the-art training.

Dr. Alan Cohen leads the Rainbow Surgical Specialists as the first ever Surgeon-in-Chief of Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. Says Cohen, "We felt that we could better serve our needs and those of the patients and their referring physicians by working as a team. As often happens in hospitals, in some cases, some of the surgeons didn't know what was going on a few rooms down the hall. We decided to organize, meet monthly, and speak with a common voice." And this has led to the dissolution of boundaries between specialties in the operating room. "We're able to do certain things here that can't be done at other places. With different specialties working so closely, we can do more, more quickly and more safely."

Dr. Cohen cites the case of a tumor at the base of the skull, which he describes as a "no-man's-land" where sometimes the neurosurgeon can approach it from the top or the ENT surgeon can come at it from below. "We can attack it in a combined fashion, north and south of the disciplinary border," he explains. "With all hands working as one, at once, we can take out tumors that can't be taken out elsewhere, and we can make operations safer that aren't as safe in other hands.

"What makes this possible is the unique character of the people at Rainbow. It's unusual to be in a group of very talented surgeons who are not fed by their egos. We're able to accomplish more because there's not one prima donna here. Everyone's part of the team."

NEUROSURGERY

As Chief of the Pediatric Neurosurgery division, Dr. Cohen is a leader in developing the field of minimally invasive brain surgery.