



**Edward M. Barksdale, Jr., MD**

Robert J. Izant, Jr, MD Endowed Division Chief, Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery,  
Surgeon-in-Chief, UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital  
Professor of Surgery & Pediatrics, CWRU School of Medicine

Edward M. Barksdale, Jr., MD, is Division Chief of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery at University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital. He is Surgeon-in-Chief at UH Rainbow, holds the Robert J. Izant, Jr., MD, Endowed Chair in Pediatric Surgery, and is a Professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Dr. Barksdale is nationally recognized as a leader in pediatric surgery. Notable areas of expertise include the management of short bowel syndrome, in utero malformations and the immunobiology of neuroblastoma. Additionally, Dr. Barksdale recently launched a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funded hospital-based violence intervention program for teens called the Antifragility Initiative. The program aims to reduce recidivism, prevent adverse outcomes, and improve the patient's overall well-being. He is one of 6 recipients of the biennially awarded prestigious George Herbert Walker Bush '48 Lifetime Leadership Award (2023) Yale University.

Dr. Barksdale graduated from Yale University with a BS in biology and earned his medical degree at Harvard Medical School. He completed his residency in general surgery followed by a pediatric surgery research fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). While there, he became the first African American to serve as the prestigious Chief of the West Surgery Service. He continued his residency training in pediatric surgery at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Before joining UH Rainbow as Chief of Pediatric Surgery, Barksdale spent 13 years as an attending pediatric surgeon at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.