# Cerebral Palsy: Facts and Fiction-What is CP all about? Andrea Paulson MD MPH Assistant Professor Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine August 9th 2017 Teresa Flower BSN, RN II, CPN Pediatric Rehabilitation Teresa Flower BSN, RN II, CPN Pediatric Rehabilitation

### Learner Outcomes

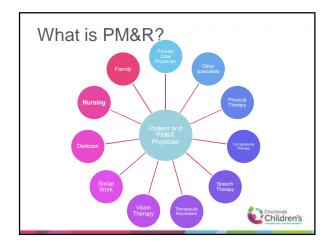
- Describe etiology, signs and symptoms of Cerebral Palsy (CP)
- Identify the role of various subspecialists involved in the care and treatment of children with CP.

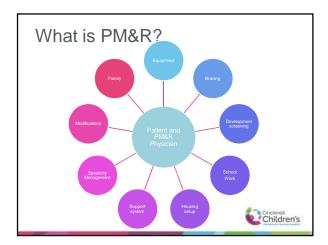


### Overview

- What is PM&R
- Definition of CP
- Epidemiology
- Risk Factors
- Diagnosis
- Common Misconceptions
- Conclusion







## Cerebral Palsy (CP)

"A group of disorders of the development of movement and posture, causing activity limitations that are attributed to nonprogressive disturbances that occurred in the developing fetal or infant brain"



### Epidemiology

- CP is the most common motor disability of childhood
- Prevalence of 3.6 cases per 1000 children



## Meet Gage Children's

### **Risk Factors**

### Prematurity

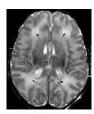
- Gestational Age
  - Born <26 wks 12% of infants
- Birth weight
  - Birth weight >2500g 1500-2499g 1000-1499g Prevalence 1.4
    - 15 68
    - <1000g 57





### **Risk Factors**

- Poor APGAR scores
  - 93-95% with APGAR 0-3 do not have CP
- Neonatal Encephalopathy
  - Outcome depends on HIE severity
    - Mild: 0-3% sequela
    - Moderate: 20-35% sequela
    - Severe: universal sequela





### **Risk Factors**

- Congenital Abnormalities:
  - More common in children with CP
- Brain Malformations: Occur during development



### Risk Factors

- · Genetic susceptibility
- Multiple Births:
  - CP risk increases w/ multiple births
    - Single 1.6/1000
    - Twins 7.3/1000
    - Triplets 28/1000





### Risk Factors

- Stroke
- Intracranial hemorrhage
- Intrauterine infection
- Acquired postnatal causes







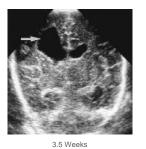
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Intracranial Hemorrhage

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### Diagnosis

- Relies upon a combination of findings, including motor delay, neurologic signs, persistence of early developmental reflexes, and abnormal postural reactions
- There are no specific tests to confirm the diagnosis of CP
- The general algorithm



### Goal of Diagnosis

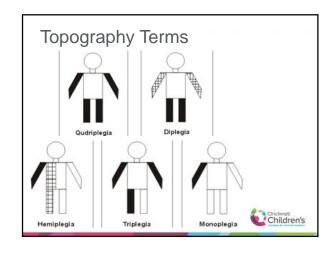
- Goal for Diagnosis and referral as early as a concern arises.
- Need for a team approach, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

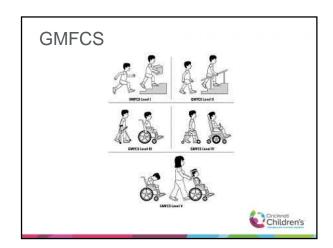


### Early Signs

- · Abnormal muscle tone
- Abnormal early reflexes: absent or persist longer than normal
- Abnormal movements: movement of one segment causes movement of multiple
- Early handedness



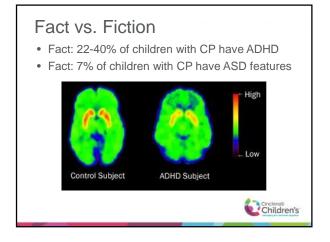






# Fact vs. Fiction • Fact: intellectual disability is present in 50% of individuals with CP





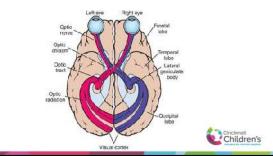
### Fact vs. Fiction

 Fact: Epilepsy occurs in 25-45% of children with CP



### Fact vs. Fiction

• Fact: Visual disorders are common and 80% of children can have an abnormal eye exam.



### Fact vs. Fiction

Fact: Disorders of speech and language occur in 40-50% of children with CP

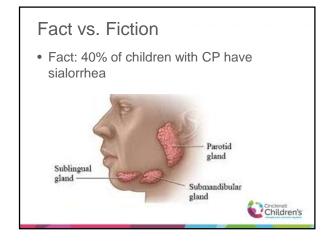
- Aphasia
- Dysarthria

Fact: hearing impairment occurs in 10-20% of children with CP





# Fact vs. Fiction • Fact: Growth failure is common with children with CP and generally correlates with severity.



### Fact vs. Fiction

 Fact: Chronic pulmonary disease is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with severe CP





### Fact vs. Fiction

• Fact: Orthopedic disorders are common







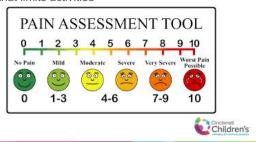
# Fact vs. Fiction • Fact: Low bone mineral density occurs in 77% of children with CP Healthy bone Osteoporosis

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### Fact vs. Fiction

 Fact: Pain is reported in 50-75% of children with CP, and approximately 25% experience pain that limits activities



### Fact vs. Fiction

• Fact: Children with CP have high rates of disordered sleep.



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