



CEREBRAL PALSY DAY



Rehab team with mother of children with Cerebral palsy condition.

PROPER USE OF TERMINOLOGY

Do Respect the Person, First

Referring to an individual by their impairment is no longer acceptable. Acceptable terminology accentuates the person first, then mentions their impairment, only if pertinent. Labeling an individual is inappropriate. Describing an individual is appropriate. Do this by placing emphasis on the person, not their condition. It is proper to say 'person with disability' as opposed to 'disabled person.' It is proper to say 'person with epilepsy' versus 'the epileptic.' It is appropriate to state 'the boy with quadriplegia' versus 'the quadriplegic.'

Don't Refer to a Person with Impairment in a Negative Way

Negativity is disempowering. The impairment is a condition, not a result of violence. A person should not be given a label that insinuates inappropriate treatment. For instance, do not use victim, sufferer, stricken by, deformed, incapacitated, unfortunate, invalid, or afflicted with. For instance, 'John may have cancer,' but John is never 'a cancer'

Do Get to Know the Level of Impairment

A person with total hearing loss is considered 'a person who is without hearing,' but is not considered a 'deaf person.' Likewise, a person with partial hearing loss is referred to as 'a person with hearing impairment.' A person with total sight loss is considered 'a person who is blind,' but is not considered a 'blind person.' A person with a varying degree of sight — a person who can see but is not considered legally blind, for example — is 'a person with vision impairment.' A person who displays trouble speaking, uses voice prosthesis, or appears to stutter is 'a person with speech impairment.'

THE CEREBRAL PALSY CHRISTMAS

A Cerebral Palsy – Mothers Empowerment group was held throughout the year, every month by the Occupational Therapist, Shanturi Naidoo and the Speech therapist, Hlumela Silimela. They were assisted by other departments like Dentistry (Zakkiyah Hajat), Physiotherapy (Wesley Naidoo) and Audiology (Nadhira Ramnath). The group was a huge success and even took 2nd prize in the hospital QIP day.

Mothers were taught, holistically, all they needed to know about Cerebral Palsy. The group was aimed at to improve the knowledge and understanding of mothers' of children with CP in regards to the disorder, to emphasize the role each rehab team member plays in the rehabilitation of children with CP, to improve collaboration of services within the rehab team members establishing a healthy MDT, to provide mothers with a support system by having each other to lean on and share their experiences of having a child with CP and to provide mothers with a reliable resource file that aided in practical sessions.

Our QIP on Cerebral palsy project won the 2nd prize during the annual quality day 2013

As a reward for the mothers determination and compliance we had a year-end Christmas party. All mothers were rewarded with a certificate and a gift bag containing a mug, brush, purse, slab of chocolate, lip gloss, soap and a bible sayings for Christmas. Each child had the opportunity to sit on Santa`s lap and received a goodie bag with a blanket, ball, party pack filled with sweets and chips, bubbles, play dough, children tooth brushes, rattles, bibs and face towels, a Potty chair, a masher to smoothen out food, light up balls and LOTS and LOTS of toys. Each mother got 3 boxes of Future Life for their child as well as a KFC lunch and, custard and yoghurt for desert.

Mums cried and shared their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the entire Rehab team!

Article, pictures and information submitted by: Mr. Wesley Naidoo and Hlumela Silimela , unless the source is mentioned

PICTURE COLLAGE



What is Cerebral Palsy-

C.P. is an umbrella term that refers to a group of disorders affecting a person's ability to move. It is permanent life-long condition, but generally does not worsen over time. It is due to damage to the developing brain either during pregnancy or shortly after birth.

Symptoms-

C.P. affects people in different ways and can affect body movement, muscle control, muscle coordination, muscle tone, reflex, posture and balance. People who have cerebral palsy may also have visual, learning, hearing, speech, epilepsy and intellectual impairments.

How is it managed-

The brain injury that causes C.P can't be healed, but the resulting impairment can be managed with a wide range of treatment and therapies. Each child's impairment is unique and therefore no universal treatment for cerebral palsy exists.

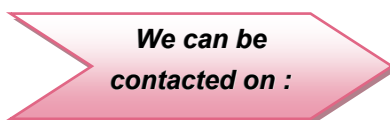
Facts about Cerebral Palsy

- ◇ CP is incurable but therapy helps to manage effects on the body
- ◇ CP is non-progressive - the brain lesion is the result of a one-time brain injury and will not produce further degeneration of the brain.
- ◇ CP is permanent - the injury and damage to the brain is permanent. The brain does not "heal" as other parts of the body might. Because of this, the cerebral palsy itself will not change for better or worse during a person's lifetime. On the other hand, associative conditions may improve or worsen over time.
- ◇ CP is not contagious; it is not communicable – In the majority of cases, cerebral palsy is caused by damage to the developing brain. Brain damage is not spread through human contact. However, a person can intentionally or unintentionally increase the likelihood a child will develop cerebral palsy through abuse, accidents, medical malpractice, negligence, or the spread of a bacterial or viral infection.
- ◇ CP is non-life-threatening – With the exception of children born with a severe case, cerebral palsy is considered to be a non-life-threatening condition. Most children with cerebral palsy are expected to live well into adulthood.
- ◇ Cerebral palsy is chronic – The effects of cerebral palsy are long-term, not temporary. An individual diagnosed with cerebral palsy will have the condition for their entire life.

Important points to ponder

- ◇ Kids with cerebral palsy are just like other kids, but with some greater challenges that make it harder to do everyday things. More than anything else, they want to fit in and be liked.
- ◇ Be patient if you know someone or meet someone with CP. If you can't understand what a person with CP is saying or if it takes a person with CP longer to do things, give him or her extra time to speak or move. Being understanding is what being a good friend is all about, and a kid with CP will really appreciate it.

SOURCE: <https://www.google.co.za/#q=cerebral+palsy+definition>



Murchison Hospital can be contacted on

Private bag X 701

Port Shepstone, 4240

Email– address: Silindile.Mabaso@kznhealth.gov.za

Website: <http://www.kznhealth.gov.za/murchisonhospital.htm>