Clinical Care Pathways for Children Diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy or at High Risk for Cerebral Palsy

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Clinical Care Pathway for Parent/Guardian

Children born with Cerebral Palsy experience extra challenges in their lives with independence and mobility. The initiative to diagnose children in infancy either at high risk for cerebral palsy or confirmation of cerebral palsy means they are able to receive services earlier in the most critical time of brain development when synapses are being formed. Therefore, early diagnosis and appropriate early intervention is essential to the overall development of the child. Clinical care pathways provide directional guidance for parents and medical providers to know a step-by-step, evidenced based roadmap the child will need to follow to optimize function and quality of life. These pathways have been developed based on evidence based publications, referral patterns in New Mexico and around the nation, and work of the Early Cerebral Palsy Risk Detection and Intervention Task Force.

Clinical Care Pathway for Medical Providers

Pre-Refferal Evaluation

NICU

Other Medical Provider

Parents

Trained Health Professional Neuromotor Evaluation

Positive Result

Negative Result

Pediatrician Follow Up

Cerebral Palsy Clinic

UNM High Risk of CP follow up clinic

Early Intervention (FIT if Qualified)

Outpatient Clinic

Results

High Risk For Cerebral Palsy

Cerebral Palsy

Neither

Determine Severity & Impairments

Refer to early intervention and outpatient therapy

Pediatrician Follow Up with Monitoring

Evidence-based Interventions

Infant Displays Detectable Risks

< 5 Months Corrected Age

General Movements Motor Assessment + MRI of Motor Areas in Brain + History Taking for Risk Factors

If GM Motor Assessment Not Available and MRI Not Safe/Affordable

HINE Score of <57 + TIMP

MRI for Abnormal Neuroanatomy

DAYC AIM + NSMDA

> 5 Months Corrected Age

HINE: <73 - High Risk for CP

<40 - Usually CP

If GM Motor Assessment Not Available and MRI Not Safe/Affordable

HINE Score of <57 + TIMP

MRI for Abnormal Neuroanatomy

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References

