Let’s Take a Walk Together

Every diagnosis of cerebral palsy leads to a life path as unique as the person who walks it, whether it’s a child, parent, or caregiver. And while no two paths are exactly alike, the shared experiences of joy, happiness, pain, and struggle are what let us help each other navigate our individual journeys. In this issue we'd like to travel together for a bit and share what we've learned about some stretches of the CP road, from noticing the first signs of CP and what may have caused it, to landmarks along the road and just how long it can be.

We would love to hear about your personal journey, and what you’ve done to keep yourself or loved ones moving along. Send your story to families@cpfamilynetwork.org and it could be shared with the entire CPFN family and beyond!

Don’t forget to check out our Facebook page. With over 113,000 family members sharing news, CP Heroes, personal stories, birthdays, and more, there's something interesting for everyone!

FEATURE STORY

Symptoms of Cerebral Palsy in Newborns

Cerebral palsy isn’t always apparent at birth, often taking months or years to diagnose. However, there are some signs and symptoms that you may be able to spot in your newborn. If you see these signs, it doesn’t necessarily mean that your child has cerebral palsy, but your pediatrician will likely want to monitor your baby and run more tests as they develop to reach a confirmed diagnosis.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Levels of Cerebral Palsy

CP manifests itself in many different physical, intellectual, and mental health challenges, which complicates the process of establishing any universal standards. It’s critical to have a thorough understanding of the kind and severity of your child’s cerebral palsy diagnosis when developing a treatment and intervention plan.

Is Cerebral Palsy Progressive?

Cerebral palsy is a concern for every parent, especially those who are about to deliver or have just experienced a traumatic delivery. Even though thinking about a cerebral palsy diagnosis can be scary, it allows you to prevent, identify, and develop a treatment plan that gives your child the relief and help that they need.

What Is the Average Life Expectancy for Children With Cerebral Palsy?

Most children with cerebral palsy can have a long, productive life with the right care and treatment. This, of course, means they may need more medications, therapies, and medical interventions than children without it. For kids with cerebral palsy, life expectancy can vary greatly depending on the severity of the condition.
We love celebrating amazing kids and helpers in the CP community, so if you want to see your child or loved one featured on our page and newsletter, we want to hear from you! Send us a photo, a short bio, and tell us why they’re your CP Hero.

SHARE YOUR HERO

Got a Story Idea?
Some of our most popular blogs and articles have come straight from the CPFN community. Travel tips, new therapies, inspiring people... whatever you want to see on our pages. After all, this is your newsletter!

TELL US WHAT YOU WANT TO READ

“A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.” —Christopher Reeve

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Happy Independence Day
JULY 4

Parent’s Day
JUL 28
Families in appreciation to the team of dedicated attorneys and medical professionals at JJS Justice for their continued diligence and work on CP cases.