# **CP**FamilyNetwork



## **Spring...the Season of Change**

This year, we wade into the season with a mixed bag of emotions, tentatively testing waters that seem to shift on a regular basis. Do the murky waters conceal a smooth bed of hope and new beginnings or rocky shoals of doubt and uncertainty? Whatever the future may bring, we hope this issue's content will help guide your steps and give you safe passage.

In this issue, we are addressing some of the basics, such as symptoms of cerebral palsy and potential signs of CP in 3-4-month-olds, and dive into some specifics of hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE), and your options in the face of such a diagnosis. Finally, we'll visit the uses of stem cell therapy to help treat the effects of CP and the future of stem cell research.

We want to hear your stories and ideas about living the CP life, as well! Drop us a line at <a href="mailto:families@cpfamilynetwork.org">families@cpfamilynetwork.org</a> and our next newsletter could feature <a href="mailto:you">you!</a>

Don't forget to check out our <u>Facebook page</u>. Over 113,000 strong, it's an active community full of inspiring news, CP Heroes, personal stories, and more!

#### **FEATURE STORY**

## Symptoms of Cerebral Palsy

Cerebral palsy is a condition caused by brain damage that leads to poor muscle tone and movement issues, including rigidity, involuntary movements, and unbalanced walking. The effects of CP on a child can vary, but it's important to understand the possible cerebral palsy symptoms so that you can get your child the help they need.

## **LEARN MORE**



#### **LEGAL**

## How Can I Prove Medical Professionals Are to Blame for My Child's HIE During Delivery?

Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy (HIE) in newborns can have serious long-term consequences. If your child experienced this injury during birth and suffered as a result of a medical professional's actions or inactions, you may be able to bring an action for medical malpractice.

### **GET HELP NOW**



#### **CP DIAGNOSIS**

## Potential Signs of Cerebral Palsy in 3-4-Month-Olds

Without a proper diagnosis, essential early treatments and therapies may be delayed, which can worsen symptoms later on. It's important to be aware of the symptoms of cerebral palsy in a 3-month-old and the possible signs of cerebral palsy in 4-month-old babies so you can speak with your child's pediatrician about any concerns.

## **KNOW THE SIGNS**



#### **TYPES of CP**

## What Are the Long-Term Effects of Severe HIE?

While HIE complications can be significant and challenging, families should know there are treatments and therapies available, and developments are being made all the time thanks to research into encephalitis, long-term effects of oxygen deprivation, and associated disorders like cerebral palsy.

## **BE PREPARED**



#### ALTERNATIVE THERAPY/TREATMENTS

## Can Stem Cell Therapy Be Used to Treat Cerebral Palsy?

In recent years, researchers have discovered that **stem cell transplantation may be an effective way to restore certain abilities in cerebral palsy patients**, allowing them to enjoy better overall function and quality of life. Explore how stem cell therapy for cerebral palsy may be a treatment worth further study.

## **CHECK IT OUT**



#### **APRIL CP HERO**

## Say Hi to Wyatt!

This dynamic 8-year-old doesn't let spastic CP get in his way. He gets up every morning with a HUGE smile on his face, ready to tackle a new day! Wyatt's energy is all-inclusive, and he loves getting to know people. He is curious, loves to dance, and fights hard every day to move his body to keep up with his peers. His determination is what makes him so special!

## **SHARE YOUR CP 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** 



"The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do." —Walter Bagehot

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** 



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR











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