

Special Issue

Early Diagnosis and Early Intervention for Children with Cerebral Palsy

Message from the Guest Editors

Cerebral palsy (CP) is defined as a group of permanent disorders of the development of movement and posture that cause activity limitations and can be attributed to non-progressive disturbances occurring in the developing fetal or infant brain. The diagnosis is made clinically, and the condition affects around 2/1000 live births. Early intervention has the theoretical potential to provide a greater degree of protection against adverse outcomes due to greater early neuroplasticity. However, several challenges remain. Firstly, early intervention requires accurate early diagnosis, and progress is being made in improving early detection in and the referral of affected infants. Secondly, the evidence base for effective early intervention remains limited. Thirdly, we need to determine how best to support families with a child with CP. This Special Issue aims to collate clinical studies that focus on early detection, evidence-based early intervention, and evidence for the effectiveness of methods of parental support, focussing on the first 1000 days.

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