

Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine

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CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL®

Rehab Reporter

Rehabilitation Newsletter Vol.1 Issue 1 Fall 2008

The Greater Birmingham Association of Home Builders Teams up with Children's Hospital



Rehabilitation team with Mary Katherine Fletcher and members of the Greater Birmingham Association of Home Builders. Front Row (L-R): Sarah Tucker OT, Mary Kathryn Fletcher, Claire Robb CTRS, Rhett Wheeler PT; Back row (L-R): Charlie Law, MD, Cathleen Crunk SLP, Bernita Wardlow LCSW, Cyndi Cortes CRNP, Angela Hamby CRRN, Bart Fletcher, Drew Davis, MD, Susanna Linder

The Greater Birmingham Association of Home Builders (GBAHB) has made the UAB Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine at Children's Hospital the beneficiary of the 2008 Parade of Homes. In conjunction with Children's Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, Claire Robb, GBAHB sponsored an art contest in which our patients were asked to create a vision of their dream home.

Many outstanding entries were received and the winner, Anna Henning, had her art featured on the cover of the 2008 Parade of Homes Plan Book. Anna also received a significant prize for her winning efforts, and the Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine received a generous donation from the proceeds of the Parade of Homes to go towards the care of its patients. For more details and to see Anna Henning's winning entry go to <http://rehab.chsys.org/> and click on "In The News."

Rehabilitation Team members:

- Physician
- Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Clinician
- Neuropsychologist
- Physical Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
- Counselor
- Teacher
- Social Worker
- Nutrition
- Chaplain

Children's Hospital Celebrates Rehabilitation Awareness Week



The UAB Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine at Children's Hospital will celebrate National Rehabilitation Awareness Week on September 25th with an open house from 3:30-5:00 pm in the Room of Magic at Children's Hospital featuring food, games, and door prizes. The goal of the celebration is to further educate health professionals and members of the community about the benefits and impact of rehabilitation which enables individuals living with disabilities to achieve their fullest potential. Please join us for this unique opportunity to meet and interact with the many professionals on the Rehabilitation Team who treat and support our patients in their rehabilitation efforts. For more information please contact Claire Robb at (205) 939-6997.

Did you know?

- Of children ages 6 to 14, one in eight have some type of disability.
- Alabama ranks 5th in the country in the number of children with disabilities, according to 2005 Census data.
- Approximately 1.9 million Americans experience a traumatic brain injury (TBI) each year.
- TBI is the number one cause of acquired disability in childhood
- One brain injury occurs every 15 seconds; about 50% of these result in at least a short-term disability.
- About 11,000 people in the US suffer a traumatic spinal cord injury (SCI) each year. At present, nearly 200,000 people live with a SCI related disability.
- Automobile crashes, firearms, and falls are the leading causes of traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries - two of the most severely disabling injuries.

Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine at Children's Hospital

The UAB Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine (PRM) at Children's Hospital collaborates with other agencies and organizations to serve children with congenital and childhood onset physical impairments with an understanding of the life course of disability. Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation services at Children's Hospital are provided by professionals who recognize the uniqueness of each child and support the accomplishments of mutually established goals. A child's abilities, rather than disabilities, are emphasized. Further, the Rehabilitation Team believes the involvement of child and family in goal setting is essential for success. Together with children and family members, the division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine serves as an advocate for children with disabilities with the goal that each child will achieve their highest level of independent functioning possible.

Rehabilitation is an ongoing process. During an inpatient stay, the Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine Team will address a patient's ongoing rehabilitation needs, any concerns that develop during their stay and provide discharge planning to meet the needs of the patient including, but not limited to scheduling outpatient and/or day treatment therapy services, home health services, and physician follow-up appointments, ordering durable medical equipment, arranging home-bound education services, and facilitating community reentry.

PRM Outpatient Clinics

- General Rehabilitation
- Inpatient Rehabilitation Follow-up
- Spina Bifida
- CPODD
- Teen Transition
- Limb Deficiency
- Muscular Dystrophy Association
- Brachial Plexus
- Neuromotor Clinic (Mobile, AL)
- Spasticity

For more information regarding outpatient clinics, visit <http://rehab.chsys.org/>
Click on services

The UAB Division of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine at Children's Hospital also operates a number of outpatient clinics tailored to meet the unique needs of its patients. Many clinics are multidisciplinary in nature and also include physicians that specialize in pediatric neurosurgery, orthopedics, urology, neurology, and pulmonology. Rehabilitation nurses, occupational and physical therapy, speech and language pathologists, therapeutic recreational specialists, counselors, teachers, and social workers are also incorporated into the outpatient clinics as appropriate.



To learn more about inpatient & outpatient services, call (205) 939-9790 or visit <http://rehab.chsys.org>

Alabama Council for Developmental Disabilities Sponsors iPhone Project

The Alabama Council for Developmental Disabilities has approved funding for an innovative project to develop universally designed software for the iPhone. The project will be conducted by Dr. Drew Davis and other staff members of UAB and Children's Hospital in conjunction with Push Product Design. As technology advances rapidly, it is crucial that the needs of individuals with various physical and cognitive impairments be taken into account when designing new technologies and software. The initial phase of the project will seek to develop and demonstrate a component of augmentative communication, environmental control, and mobility control using the iPhone. A town hall/ focus group meeting will be held at the Birmingham office of Independent Living Resources of Greater Birmingham, Inc on Oct. 9 from 3:30 to 5:30 to gather feedback from consumers.



For more information please call 205-939-9790.

Upcoming Events:

Therapists Seminar

September 22-23
12:30-4:30 pm
Park Place Outpatient PT/OT
Children's Hospital
(205) 939-6293

What is the Pediatric CI Therapy program?



The Pediatric CI (constraint induced) Therapy program is modeled after Dr. Edward Taub's five years of pediatric CI Therapy research and provides an evidence based approach to rehabilitation. The program is located in downtown Birmingham, AL at Children's Hospital. The first patient was treated in May of 2007 and since then children with cerebral palsy, schizencephaly, acquired stroke, brain tumors, hemispherectomies, and brachial plexus injuries have been treated. Participating families have come from all over the US and other countries as well.

Appropriate patients range in age from 2-20 years old, and they receive individualized treatment according to their specific therapeutic needs. The program currently treats patients for three hours per day, five days per week, with both two and three-week treatment schedules.

There are a total of four occupational therapists trained in pediatric CI therapy on our staff, and we will conduct our first pediatric training course open to therapists in the Fall of 2008.

For more information regarding the CI therapy program, please call 205-939-6293.



Uni-valved cast used in the program



Hand-In-Paw Visits New Clinic

Hand-In-Paw, an internationally known non-profit organization, will be adding a new "treatment" during clinic. Beginning in September, Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine and the Muscular Dystrophy Association are offering a new clinic for patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. PETSCRIPTION volunteers from Hand-In-Paw will work with staff to provide medical, and rehabilitation services via interactions between patients/clients and therapy animals.

PETSCRIPTION services have been proven to save medical staff time and make it easier for them to work with challenging situations. In addition, research shows that when

therapy animals are utilized with patients, the need for sedation and pain medication is reduced. Furthermore, visiting dogs bring about a change in staff attitude that has a positive effect on their interactions with patients.

For more information, check out www.handinpaw.org

To refer a patient,
please call:
205-939-9790

For more information about
Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine, visit
our website at <http://rehab.chsys.org>

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