



# DPT

## DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS TODAY



November 2022

### Monthly e-Newsletter of IAP Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics

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## Editorial

Respected Seniors and Dear Friends,

Wish you all a very Happy new year 2023! I



Sincerely hope this new year brings an abundance of peace and happiness to all of you. Let's join hands and take a huge leap in improving our services to specially-abled kids this year.

3rd December is World persons with disabilities day. In India, about 2.1% of the population has some disability. Among the total disabled in the country, 12.6 million are males and 9.3 million are females. Such a huge population deserves better services than the existing ones which can happen with increasing awareness and political will.

With NC ECD workshops being conducted across India, I hope early detection of kids with neuro disabilities in our country improves. I am able to see a perceptible difference in the early detection of ASD due to the sensitisation of Paediatricians.

Long live IAP and Neurodevelopmental Chapter!

**Dr. Lata Bhat**

Chief Editor





## Chairperson's Message

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Dear Readers,

Season's Greetings!

Well, we are at the closing end of 2022. It is time to reflect and time to harvest all the knowledge we have gathered over the year, and to sharpen our services for our children of special needs. Our monthly DPT newsletter have kept up with the themes of different awareness days as a reminder, and many of the CDC's have kept up with activities along these lines. We have had record number of online sharing of the knowledge and activities by our members. My sincere gratitude for their efforts and commitment for knowledge sharing and parental support.



The examination for the outgoing batch of fellowship students of the 2021-22 batch were held at St John Medical College Bangalore and all the students performed exceptionally well and I wish them a bright future ahead. I thank Dr Maria Lewin and her team at St John Medical College for their efforts and time.

The month of November deals with two very important Days namely Prematurity Day and Epilepsy Day. Preterm births carry an increased risk of poor neurodevelopmental outcome, with increased risk of cerebral palsy and sensory impairments. Incidence of epilepsy is also high in children born prematurely especially in those with neonatal seizures. Much is in our hands in preventing a delay from becoming a disability by a neuro-constructive approach. This issue of the Newsletter deals with some of the above topics. Wish you all happy reading.

Jai IAP,

**Dr. Shabina Ahmed MD, FIAP**

National Chairperson

Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics Chapter of IAP





## Snippets from the Secretary

Dear seniors and friends,

Seasons greetings from the IAP Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics. Hope this issue of newsletter find you all and your families in good health.

The year is coming to an end and the fresh batch of fellows have started their journey of developmental pediatrics at their respective centers and I take this opportunity to wish them a great academic experience in the coming year. The current issue of the newsletter also features few articles and journal scans received from the outgoing batch of fellowship students.



With the blessing of IAP President Dr Remesh Kumar and HSG Dr Vineet Saxena and guidance of Dr Jeesson Unni, the new version of program on poor scholastic performance program has been prepared (PSPP 2.0) after almost 15 years of the first such program. The new version has been updated keeping in account the issues faced by students in the hi-tech world of today and issues faced by parents and teachers and solutions which are practical and can be used in resource poor settings. ToT for master trainers was held online and now, physical workshops are planned at different cities as decided by central IAP. I am sure that the paediatricians will use the knowledge from this to help the children and teachers in their respective areas.

The chapter's journal 'Indian Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics' was launched at MP Pedicon Vidisha and we look forward to contributions from all the members for the journal to make it an excellent publication in this field from South-east Asia. With a TEAM effort, I am sure that we can make this possible.

Wishing all the readers a merry Christmas and a happy 'n' prosperous new year in advance.

**“Disability is a matter of perception.” - Martina Navratilova**

Long live IAP.

**Wg Cdr (Dr) KS Multani**

National Secretary

IAP Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Paediatrics





### Early visual training and environmental adaptation for infants with visual impairment

ELISA FAZZI, SERENA MICHELETTI, STEFANO CALZA, LOTFI MERABET, ANDREA ROSSI, JESSICA GALL, EARLY VISUAL INTERVENTION STUDY GROUP

DMCN vol 63 (10) Oct 2021

#### Abstract

**AIM** To evaluate the effectiveness of early visual training and environmental adaptation on visual function and neurological development in infants with visual impairment.

**METHOD** This was a pilot intervention clinical trial study. Thirty infants (mean age 5.9mo, SD 2.1mo, range 4–11mo; 16 males, 14 females) with peripheral visual impairment (PVI, n=15) or cerebral visual impairment (CVI, n=15) participated in a 6-month visual intervention programme. Thirty matched infants (mean age 6mo, SD 1.4mo, range 4–9mo; 18 males, 12 females) served as a comparison group. Primary outcome measures were visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, and qualitative ocular motor functions. Secondary outcomes were scores on the Griffiths Mental Developmental Scales (GMDS).

**RESULTS** The treatment group showed a significant improvement in all the primary outcomes ( $p < 0.01$ ). The comparison group improved only in visual acuity and contrast sensitivity ( $p < 0.01$ ). The treatment group showed greater improvement than the comparison group in visual fixation ( $p = 0.033$ ) and smooth pursuit ( $p < 0.01$ ). The CVI subgroup showed greater improvement in visual acuity than the PVI subgroup ( $p < 0.01$ ). GMDS subscales of hand–eye coordination ( $p = 0.01$ ) and performance ( $p < 0.01$ ) increased in the treatment group, while the total score of the comparison group decreased, driven by language ( $p = 0.039$ ) and hand–eye coordination ( $p = 0.025$ ) subscales.

**INTERPRETATION** Results suggest that, in infants with visual impairment, visual function and certain developmental outcomes improve in response to early visual training and environmental adaptation, in an interactive context.





### Precision therapy in the genetic epilepsies of childhood

SUSAN BYRNE, NOELLE ENRIGHT, NORMAN DELANTY

DMCN vol 63 (10) Oct 2021

#### Abstract

Despite recent advances in both the understanding and treatment of the epilepsies, the rate of refractory epilepsy has remained static for many years. However, given our greater understanding of the aetiology and genetic basis of many paediatric and adult epilepsies, there is now scope to expand treatment. In this review, we discuss the current and potential use of precision medicine in the genetic epilepsies of childhood. We will discuss how optimal control and a reduction in the rate of refractory seizures using targeted therapy could be developed and assessed. We propose a six-tier approach to defining precision therapeutics in epilepsy and discuss how this can be incorporated into a clinical trial design. The lower tiers (1–2) represent therapies in common usage that we know work for certain epilepsy syndromes but do not precisely target the underlying problem. They work to reduce seizures but do not directly or effectively attenuate the developmental phenotype. The higher tiers (5–6) are currently purely speculative and look to a future with highly disease-specific therapies based on correction of underlying genomic and proteomic issues. In order to achieve this, scientists will have to embark on a ‘whole-omic’ approach to understand the underlying pathophysiology in order to design a precision therapy.

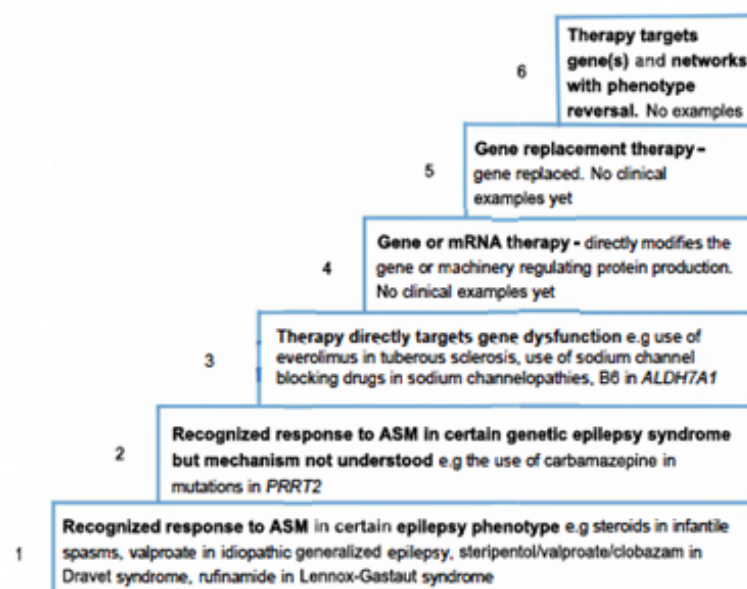


Figure 1: Proposed tiers of precision therapy in the epilepsies. ASM, antiseizure medication.





## Month in pics



**Dr Shaji Thomas awarded The INTERNATIONAL BEST RESEARCHER AWARD on 06 Nov 2022 at the prestigious ISSN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARDS AND CONGRESS 2022 ( IISTAC 2022 ) for his work on Down syndrome**





## Month in pics



**Dr Samir delivering Dr Jayshree Nadkarni Oration at MP Pedicon at Vidisha MP - 12 Nov 2022**





## Month in pics



Inauguration ceremony MP Pedicon 2022



Noble Laureate Mr Kailash Satyarthi giving a speech at inauguration ceremony at MP Pedicon





## Month in pics



PSPP 2.0 workshop program went off very well. Attended by 48 delegates. Thanks to Dr Jeeson sir, visionary and stalwart of ND chapter who came all the way from Kochi. Dr Geetha Patil, our EB member, dynamic, great organiser, motivator and leader, Dr Somasundaram, energetic, enthusiastic, passionate speaker, ND chapter and team CIAP presidential action plan PSPP 2.0 was a wonderful interactive program well appreciated by all who attended.





## Month in pics



From PSPP 2.0 workshop





## Month in pics



From PAPP 2.0 workshop





## Month in pics

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It was a blissful moment when the Inaugural volume of our Journal IJDBP was released by Shri Kailash Satyarthi Ji Noble Prize for Peace Laureate in the August presence of IAP National President 2022 Dr. Remesh Kumar sir, IAP President elect 2022, Dr. Upendra Kinjawadekar sir, IAP National Treasurer 2022-23, Dr Samir Dalwai, My friends Dr. Kawaljit S Multani National Secretary IAPNDP chapter & Dr Mahesh Maheshwari IAP EB MP, Dr Arora sir IAP EB MP. It is the official journal of IAP Neurodevelopment paediatric chapter & will be the 1st indexed Journal of India in the field released at PEDICON Vidisha.





## Month in pics



Children of Sangamitra on outing to Decathlon on children's day





## Month in pics



Children of Sangamitra on outing to Decathlon on children's day





## Month in pics







## Month in pics







## Month in pics



ECD workshop at Delhi on 20 Nov conducted by IAP West Delhi at Hotel Hyatt Centric .





## Month in pics



PSCP 2.0 workshop at Hyderabad on 26-11-22





## Month in pics



**PSPP 2.0 workshop at Hyderabad on 26-11-22**





## Month in pics



PSPP 2.0 workshop at Hyderabad on 26-11-22