



DPT

DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS TODAY



November 2023

Monthly e-Newsletter of IAP Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics

IAP CHAPTER OF NEURO DEVELOPMENTAL PEDIATRICS

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Editorial

'Only disability is the inability to see the ability.'

Respected Seniors and dear Friends,

Greetings from the Neurodevelopmental Chapter of IAP! Hope all of you have enjoyed the festive season yet keeping safe.



November is the awareness month for prematurity, Epilepsy, and good nutrition. All three have a huge impact on child development and should be addressed appropriately. India contributes to 25% of the premature deliveries in the world. So we have a huge population of preterm survivors and their problems need to be addressed appropriately. Epilepsy worsens the outcome of any developmental disorder and must be well-understood and addressed appropriately.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the candidates who have passed the fellowship exam and to convey our best wishes to the new batch of fellowship students.

Once again I would request the fellowship students to send case reports and writeups for DPT. It would contribute to improving our knowledge sharing.

Wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Long live our Chapter !

Long live IAP !

Dr. Lata Bhat

Chief Editor



Chairperson's Message

Dear Readers,

Season's Greetings!

Well, we are at the closing end of 2023. 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 with special needs. Our monthly DPT newsletter has kept up with the themes of different awareness days as a reminder, and many of the CDCs have kept up with activities along these lines. We have had a record number of online sharing of knowledge and activities by our members. My sincere gratitude for their efforts and commitment to knowledge sharing and parental support.



The chapter conducted a fellowship examination in the third week of November at CDC Trivandrum for the 2023 batch. A total of 17 candidates appeared for the exam and all of them passed. Heartiest congratulations to all those candidates who passed the fellowship exam. The fresh batch of fellowship students started their course in October and I extend my best wishes to them.

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 outcomes, with an increased risk of cerebral palsy and sensory impairments. The incidence of epilepsy is also high in children born prematurely, especially in those with neonatal seizures. Much is in our hands to prevent a delay from becoming a disability by a neuro-constructive approach. Wish you all happy reading.

Jai IAP,

Dr. Shabina Ahmed MD, FIAP

National Chairperson

Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics Chapter of IAP



Snippets from the Secretary

Respected Seniors and Dear Friends,

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



The chapter conducted fellowship examination in the third week of November at CDC Trivandrum for the 2022 batch of fellowship students. A total of 17 candidates appeared for the examination and have qualified. The fresh batch of fellowship students have started their course at their respective centers in October and I take this opportunity to wish them a great learning journey in the coming year.

The month has two important world health themes : Epilepsy awareness month and Prematurity awareness month with World prematurity day on 17 Nov. The theme for World Prematurity Day is : “Small actions, BIG IMPACT: Immediate skin to skin care for every baby everywhere”. Prematurity is the single biggest contributor to neuro-developmental problems in children and is critical for progress on Sustainable Development Goals for child survival and maternal health. We have some interesting journal scans and wish our readers happy reading.

“The only disability in life is a bad attitude.” - Scott Hamilton

Long live IAP,

Jai Hind!

Gp Capt (Dr) KS Multani (Retd)

National Secretary

IAP Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Paediatrics



My journey - Dr. Shabina Ahmed

My journey over three decades of dedicated practice to child development, I am honoured to be recognized as a pioneer in developing the field of developmental pediatrics by the neuro developmental chapter of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics. As a founder member of the Childhood Disability Group of IAP, I have contributed significantly to the advancement of this specialty.

One of my notable contributions is the development of a child development Portal named totsguide.com. This is a self-educating portal for doctors and guardians which provide a comprehensive guide for early childhood development to children all over the world. Totsguide also offers training program for paediatricians in early diagnosis and intervention.

Programs such as Dolphin, is a mobile based application for new parents to understand and support children in first 2 years of life.

SCoPE, is a patented developmental tool with functional assessment that provides tailor made intervention for children with ASD online.

As a collaborative effort, I had created the UPANAYA early intervention program, deeply rooted in Indian child-rearing practices created in 1997. This program, adapted by UNICEF, in districts of Tamil Nadu has made a positive impact in the early intervention programs

Currently serving as the Director of the Centre for Child Development & Disabilities (CCDD), a referral centre for developmental disorders, I manage a diverse caseload from across the country and the south Asia.

I am also the founder director of Sangamitra, which offers various learning programs to children with special needs. These are adapted to Indian settings and resources addressing

developmental gaps from infancy to teenagers.

The NDBI model which is a parent mediated therapy empowers caregivers with knowledge and skills to support their child with ASD.

This centre also caters to children with various disabilities by providing an environment where children learn both academics and life skills based on their individual levels. The centre offers holistic programs to these children. Namely, Kimochi which is a program for socio emotional development, Music therapy, Awaaz training program, Sports academy for children with special needs, Sexual wellness program, Parent and sibling wellness program and Vocational training.

Some accolades and honours I have received are listed below

- Sathya Guptha Award for Social Paediatrics (1978)
- Ashoka Fellowship for Social Entrepreneurship (1986)
- Desha Snehi Award for Dedicated Service towards the Welfare of Children (May 1996)
- Rotary Excellence Award for Child Care (1998)
- Honour Role of IAP Bangalore Branch (1999)
- "Women Achievers Award" by Bangalore City Ladies Circle on International Women's Day (March 2002)
- Manthan Asia 2008 Award for e-content for teaching math to rural children in Karnataka via VSAT
- Listed as one of the Indian geniuses by the Week Magazine in 2008
- Received a Lifetime Achievement Award from IAP chapter of Neuro Developmental Paediatrics on 7th Oct 2023



Selected Peer-Reviewed Publications:

Numerous publications and contributions to journals, books, and diagnostic kits focusing on learning disabilities, childhood emergencies, parenting guides, and articles on neuroplasticity, autism, and other developmental disorders.

- Projects:
- Organized the PICAN workshop on Autism with Dr. Dua from BC Canada in 2010 which has now become ICAN with premier institutions like NIMHANS aims etc. as members.
- Organized an international seminar on developmental disabilities in November 2007 at Bangalore
- Conducted and participated in over fifty workshops, seminars, and symposiums on various developmental disabilities throughout India
- C'S Cohort Action Research Project 5 c being care, compassion, communication, creativity in minimum comfort conducted in Bengaluru slum on the first three years of life for 'Abhivridhi' Trust which was published as UNICEF report

Position held

- Director - International Children's Peace Council. www.icpc.org.in
- Director- Children's Art Foundation.
- Vice president - CAN (Concern Action Now) New Delhi (till 2006)
- Convener - IAP Childhood Disability Group till 2007
- Coordinator Women wing - IAP - South Zone
- Executive member of Child Right Commission (CRC). Bangalore
- Member of the National and State plan Karnataka for children. 2003
- Invited Member - Government of Karnataka Health Task Force for Children & Disability.
- Coordinator for the NIE school health program.

- Founder member of 'Raheen,' an NGO in New Delhi

Memberships:

- National Neonatology Forum
- Indian Academy of Pediatrics
- Indian Medical Association
- National Autistic Society
- Editorial Board of the Indian Edition of the American Journal of Diseases in Children
- Editorial Board of Childhood Disability Update (Journal)
- Core member of India Disability Network. com
- Board of Studies, Dept. Of Human Development, Mount Carmel College, Autonomous, Bangalore.
- American academy of cerebral palsy and Developmental medicine

Publications, Seminars and Symposia presented

- o Hand book on learning disabilities in children 2005
- o Your Child - Parents guide to First Five years of Life, 1999
- o Published NVN Diagnostic and Intervention Kit, 1999
- o Parent guide to childhood emergency and illness, 1997
- o Bring up Baby from Birth to One year, 1992
- o Developed an assessment and intervention kit for early detection of disabilities in children Standardized and used by many Pediatricians in the country.
- o Conducted an on line course on Learning Disorders in children for 'Indegene' (company involved in health informatics).
- o Conducted course on Early Diagnosis & Early Intervention for Pediatricians across India via distant learning. 2008
- o Released an activity book for children FIFFY Fit to feel fine on emotional intelligence 2008



- o Articles in journals
 - o Articles in Pediatric journals – Neuroplasticity, Indian journal of pediatrics
 - o Autism review Indian journal of practicing pediatrics
 - o Development of Language in Children, Pediatric Clinics of India, April-May 1991.
 - o Role of Pediatrician in dealing with Learning Disabilities in Children, Pediatric Clinics of India April-May 1991.
 - o Article on learning disabilities published in Recent advances in pediatrics vol 20 2009
 - o Chapter on Learning Disability was published in IAP text book of paediatrics
 - o Chapter on Attention deficit hyperactive disorder for the IAP Text book of pediatrics 4th edition 2009
 - o Early development profile-a diagnostic manual. Bangalore N Mundkur, V Agarwal, M Puri - Society for Child Development, 1999
 - o Cerebral palsy-definition, classification, etiology and early diagnosis C Sankar, N Mundkur - The Indian Journal of Paediatrics, 2005 - Springer
 - o Neuroplasticity in children, N Mundkur - The Indian Journal of Pediatrics, 2005 - Springe
 - o Acute diarrhea in malnourished children. Clinical, biochemical and bacteriological profile, SK Mittal, S Saxena, N Mundkur, G Srivastava... - Indian ..., 1980 - europepmc.org
 - o Isolated pyogenic liver abscess in a child following measles, N Mundkur, SK Mittal - Indian pediatrics, 1980 - ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
 - o Scientific research paper published in-IFSR - International journal of scientific research-Abberant neuroplasticity in Autism Spectrum Disorder
 - o Conducted preconference workshop on developmental paediatrics in PEDICON-2017
 - o E-poster presented in PEDICON-2017 conference
- My commitment extends beyond clinical practice.. Presently, my objective is to build national capacity for early diagnosis and management of autism, alongside developing a parental training manual.
- I am dedicated to advancing child development and disability services, and I look forward to the prospect of contributing to this field through the neuro- developmental chapter of IAP.



Journal Scan

Infertility and Risk of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Children

Maria P. Velez, MD, PhD; Natalie Dayan, MD, MSc; Jonas Shellenberger, MSc; Jessica Pudwell, MSc, MPH; Dia Kapoor, MPH; Simone N. Vigod, MD, MSc; Joel G. Ray, MD, MSc

Abstract

Previous studies on the risk of childhood autism spectrum disorder (ASD) following fertility treatment did not account for the infertility itself or the mediating effect of obstetrical and neonatal factors.

OBJECTIVE To assess the association between infertility and its treatments on the risk of ASD and the mediating effect of selected adverse pregnancy outcomes on that association.

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS This was a population-based cohort study in Ontario, Canada. Participants were all singleton and multifetal live births at 24 or more weeks' gestation from 2006 to 2018. Data were analyzed from October 2022 to October 2023.

EXPOSURES The exposure was mode of conception, namely, (1) unassisted conception, (2) infertility without fertility treatment (ie, subfertility), (3) ovulation induction (OI) or intrauterine insemination (IUI), or (4) in vitro fertilization (IVF) or intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI).

MAIN OUTCOME AND MEASURES The study outcome was a diagnosis of ASD at age 18 months or older. Cox regression models generated hazard ratios (HR) adjusted for maternal and infant characteristics. Mediation analysis further accounted for the separate effect of (1) preeclampsia, (2) cesarean birth, (3) multifetal pregnancy, (4) preterm birth at less than 37 weeks, and (5) severe neonatal morbidity.

RESULTS A total of 1370152 children (703 407 male [51.3%]) were included: 1185024 (86.5%) with unassisted conception, 141180 (10.3%) with parental subfertility, 20429 (1.5%) following OI or IUI, and 23 519 (1.7%) following IVF or ICSI. Individuals with subfertility or fertility treatment were older and resided in higher-income areas; the mean (SD) age of each group was as follows: 30.1 (5.2) years in the unassisted conception group, 33.3 (4.7) years in the subfertility group, 33.1 (4.4) years in the OI or IUI group,



Journal Scan

and 35.8 (4.9) years in the IVF or ICSI group. The incidence rate of ASD was 1.93 per1000 person-years among children in the unassisted conception group. Relative to the latter, the adjusted HR for ASD was 1.20 (95%CI, 1.15-1.25) in the subfertility group, 1.21 (95%CI, 1.09-1.34) following OI or IUI, and 1.16 (95%CI, 1.04-1.28) after IVF or ICSI. Obstetrical and neonatal factors appeared to mediate a sizeable proportion of the aforementioned association between mode of conception and ASD risk. For example, following IVF or ICSI, the proportion mediated by cesarean birth was 29%, multifetal pregnancy was 78%, preterm birth was 50%, and severe neonatal morbidity was 25%.

CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE In this cohort study, a slightly higher risk of ASD was observed in children born to individuals with infertility, which appears partly mediated by certain obstetrical and neonatal factors. To optimize child neurodevelopment, strategies should further explore these other factors in individuals with infertility, even among those not receiving fertility treatment.



HEARING AND YOUR CHILD @1-3-6



- At least a month before planning pregnancy, vaccinate to prevent rubella, if you have not got it before, to avoid your child's hearing problems.
- Some medication might cause hearing defect to children (avoid self-medications).
- Hearing loss that runs in family.

Lead level in NCV and home for pregnant lady should be low (< 450)

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO

Test: Consult with Paediatrician & Test hearing by Audiologist. Test for ear infections. Evaluate other areas of child's development.

Talk: Begin talking with child each time you get an opportunity. Start with sounds. Teach the child, wait for response, teach again you are also teaching turn taking by this way.

Mimic: Start with sounds-eg. "Mew" for Cat. Mimic child's squeals, laughter and expressions. Convert such sounds to meaningful ones.



Developed with inputs from Dr. Anshu Paul & Senior Physicians of IAP NCP & NCP Trainers
 Revised by: Dr. Shabana Ahmed & Dr. Navdeep S. Multani
 Paediatric Development Team
 Dr. Lal D. V. Rao, Dr. Leena Deshpande, Dr. Lata Bhat



CHILD SAFETY GUIDELINES IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS



CHILD SAFEGUARD = PREVENTION OF HARM
CHILD PROTECTION = RESPOND TO HARM

✓ PREVENTIONS:

- Every centre must have a child friendly policy must be linked up with child protection policies for children under 18 years with no discrimination
- Recruitment of the right people to work with children
- Employees history and track record with contact with children has to be taken
- Police verification of concerned manpower
- Staff training on provisions of POCSO Act, and its role in protecting children's right
- Keep telephone numbers of Child line and other Child Rights Agency
- Surprise checks and review safe guarding policies and ensure they are effective
- During admission explain to the parents the steps your organisation takes for child protection
- What to do if there is a concern

✓ PROTECTION:

- At entry point check for physical injury by two personal
- Take Notes and preserve evidence
- Keep notes on any new change and behaviour, excessive crying, soiling of pants, refusal to eat, refusal to cooperate
- Listen to the children
- During Toileting appoint two people during dressing and undressing and washing of private parts of children who need support
- Training of staff as to what are the different ways someone might raise a concern
- How one should respond to allegations of harm that has happened while the child was in the centre

✓ PARTNERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

- Nominate a Child Protection Lead
- Member of the Trustee Board or Society
- Families must know of the child safety policies in the centre
- Whom To Contact
- Date of enforcement of Policy
- Duly Signed
- Adopt written policy to different language and communications needs

Inputs from:

NDR - The Team 2023

HEADED BY:

Dr. Shabina Ahmed,
Go Capt. (Dr) KS. Multani

POSTER DEVELOPMENT GROUP:

Dr. Lal D.V. Nair, Dr. Leena Deshpande,
Dr. Lata Bhat

DESIGN:

Mehtaj Zaman, Arvika Dutta

Ref: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk>



Month in pics



Children and staff of Sangsmitra and CCDD wish you all happy Dieali The children made and sold diya by setting up a stall outside the gate



Month in pics



Dr Samir Dalwai was invited by the WHO to represent IAP and IPA and participate at the “Technical meeting to plan for development of virtual learning materials to support implementation of the Nurturing Care Framework for ECD” held at the WHO office, Geneva, on 9th and 10th November.

Dr Samir Dalwai is the National Coordinator of IAP’s Nurturing Care for ECD program which has conducted 180 workshops across India and he is also the Co Chair of the IPA (International Pediatric Association) Committee on ECD.



Month in pics



Dr. Shambhavi and Dr. Lata Bhat attended the Caregiver skills training workshop in Johannesburg as Preconference workshop of International Developmental Pediatrics Association conference on 28 th November 2023



Month in pics



Dr Shambhavi did an Oral presentation in IDPA at Johannesburg



Month in pics



Dr. Lata Bhat in Johannesburg workshop