



**IMPLIMENTATION OF CLINICAL GUIDELINES AND EARLY DIAGNOSIS OF  
CEREBRAL PALSY**

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**ABSTRACT**

Cerebral Palsy (CP) is the most common Physical Disability across the lifepan, But Historically, CP has not been Diagnosed before the age of 2 years. Evidence based guidelines Demonstrated that the General Movements Assessment, infant Neurological Examination and neuroimaging can be combined with other elements such as Clinical History and Standardized Motor Assessments to provide the highest predictive value for diagnosing CP as early as age 3 months in high risk newborn. New Guidelines and Research are now being developed with a focus on early, targeted interventions that continue to be studied along with global Detection initiatives. Study used a prognostic beside tool integrating risk factors in the Neonate and Pregnant Person (e.g. Tobacco use, diabetes, Preeclampsia, intra-amniotic infection).

**INTRODUCTION**

Cerebral Palsy is a non-progressive disorder of posture and movement often associated with eplitepsy and abnormalities of speech, vision and intellect. It results from a defect or lesion of the developing brain. The children with CP can be divided into groups based on their level of high risk at birth.

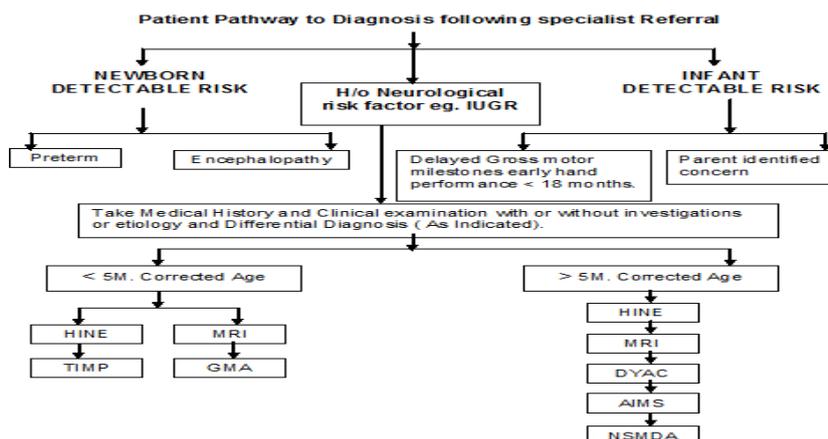
1. Infant with Hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy.
2. Preterm Labour
3. Infection - Toxoplasmosis, Rubella, Drug abuse, Rh-incompatibility, Relative infertility.
4. Low birth weight babies in relation to gestational age; IUGR, Neonatal seizures, congenital anomalies in Brain.
5. Hyperbilirubinaemia, Hypoglycaemia.

About 2% of CP cases are inherited as autosomal recessive with both parents being carriers.

**BASIC PRINCIPLES AND EVIDENCE OF TOOLS USED FOR EARLY DIAGNOSIS**

A set of clinical guidelines based on systematic reviews and evidence-based guidelines was published which delineated an algorithm that used a combination of validated tools to provide accurate Diagnosis of CP (GMA - General Movements Assessments, HINE → Hammersmith infant neurological Examination, DAYC → Developmental Assessment of Young Children and Brain MRI (Magnetic resonance imaging).

**Patient Pathway to Diagnosis following specialist Referral**



### **Use of Cerebral Palsy Early Diagnosis tools in Neonatal follow up**

The international clinical practice guidelines published in 2017 were developed by Multidisciplinary Panel of Scientific and Clinical experts in CP and outlined recommendations based on best evidence based assessments with an algorithm for early diagnosis of CP.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Across NICU and clinics around the world a shift toward early Diagnosis of CP to drive new early interventions has evolved from decades of Historical challenges and Advances. All this can happen while promoting better support, education and well-being for former NICU follow up programs.

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