

Spinal Rehabilitation Clinic

The clinic is held every Thursday morning at Perth Children's Hospital (PCH). It aims to meet the specific needs of children with spinal cord conditions. These include:

- Early identification and intervention of presenting problems
- Achieving the best health outcomes for your child
- Linking you and your child to any services as required.

When will my child need to come to clinic?

Appointments are made to meet the individual child's needs. Generally, children are seen every six months prior to starting school and annually thereafter. Doctors or other team members may need to see your child more frequently. If required, this will be discussed with you at the time. WE advise that you allow up to three hours for these appointments.

How does the clinic run?

You will be given an appointment time on a Thursday morning. Please notify the clinic receptionist when you arrive as per the wayfinding service on entry to PCH. According to your child's individual needs he or she may be seen by a number of doctors, therapists or nurse at each visit.

Where do I go?

The clinic is on the ground floor at PCH in clinic B. You will be sent specific written information with your appointment.

Parking

Please access the parking maps from the PCH website. Visitor parking is available below PCH and you can take the green lifts to ground floor for access to clinic B and other PCH services.

Families can request concession parking forms to reduce the cost, please discuss with one of the clinicians in the clinic.

What if I cannot make an appointment?

Please ring the clinic on (08) 6456 4234 as soon as you may be aware that you cannot make the clinic time allocated to you. This will enable us to make another arrangement that is more suitable for you and your child.

Scripts for medication

If your child's script does not cover the time period between appointments it is possible to request another script for certain medications. Please phone the receptionist on (08) 6456 4234 to arrange this. We would encourage you to work in partnership with your

GP for scripts between appointments if these are accessible outside of PCH. Your Paediatrician or Rehabilitation nurses can advise around this. Any scripts requested at PCH will require 5 working days' notice.

Continence products

Your child may be entitled to a continence subsidy scheme from the age of 3 years to support the purchase of continence products such as pads; the rehabilitation nurses will be happy to discuss and refer appropriately. A consumables list can also be developed for your child to access supplies from PCH (catheters, lubricant etc) in the absence of NDIS supplying these products. The rehabilitation nurse needs to manage these consumables lists but the supplies are accessed through the Equipment and Consumables Service at PCH. Further information around this will be supplied.

Rehabilitation Paediatrician

- Responsible for ongoing medical assessment, monitoring and management
- Coordinates treatment and therapies for patients

Rehabilitation nurses

- Coordinate spinal rehabilitation services for children, families and health team
- Provides specialist education and support for spinal rehabilitation patients

Physiotherapist

- Assesses and monitors neurological stability and development
- Liaises with **orthotics** to support, align and correct deformities as required
- Liaises with community providers and other relevant persons regarding the Physiotherapy management

Occupational Therapist

- Assesses and monitors children's play, self-care and daily living tasks
- Liaises with community providers and other relevant persons regarding the Occupational Therapy management

Speech Pathologist

- Assesses and manages communication skills including speech, language, voice, fluency and conversational skills
- Assesses, diagnoses and treats feeding and swallowing disorders



Clinical Psychologist

- Assesses and monitors development and appropriate behaviours and provides therapy to assist optimal development and recovery.

Neuropsychologist

- Provides counselling and linking to community resources and agencies specific to your child's and family's need

Social worker

- Provides counselling and linking to community resources and agencies specific to the child and family's needs.

Liaison teacher

- Provides follow-up for school related issues
- Provides a link between health team and school community

Urologist

- A paediatric surgeon, who investigates, monitors and treats bladder disorders.

Neurosurgeon

- A paediatric surgeon, who investigates and treats disorders of the spinal cord and brain

Other

Your child may be referred to other specialists or for other investigations; the rehabilitation nurses will assist with these referrals and coordinate them where possible.



Government of **Western Australia**
Child and Adolescent Health Service

This document can be made available in
alternative formats on request for a person with

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