



Microcephaly

Microcephaly is a condition where a baby's head is much smaller than expected. During pregnancy, a baby's head grows because the baby's brain grows. Microcephaly can happen because a baby's brain has not developed properly during pregnancy or has stopped growing after birth. It is a lifelong condition.

Babies with microcephaly can have: seizures, developmental delay, decreased ability to learn and function in daily life, problems with movement and balance, difficulty swallowing, hearing loss, or vision problems.

The causes of microcephaly in most babies are unknown. Some can be related to genetic problems. Some are related to certain infections, severe lack of food, or contact with alcohol, certain drugs or toxic chemical during pregnancy. A lack of blood supply or oxygen to the baby's brain while they are growing in the womb or after birth can also cause microcephaly.

Resources for families

Northwest support resources

- Oregon Family to Family Health Information Center
tinyurl.com/y8ed6er5
- Washington Parent to Parent (P2P) Programs
tinyurl.com/yaucv2mk

National/international/online resources

- Children with micro
tinyurl.com/y7a9qpo2
- Microcephaly Support Group
tinyurl.com/ydaqgfsb

Information for you and your care team

- Family education materials: Children's Minnesota
tinyurl.com/y8u8bghd
- Evaluation of the Child with Microcephaly - American Academy of Neurology [PDF]
tinyurl.com/hfa2yvy

Family stories

- The Hartley Hooligans
tinyurl.com/jlr9r9b
- Sean's Story - PMG Awareness Organization
tinyurl.com/yb9ocgv6

Clinical trial information

- Children and Clinical Studies
tinyurl.com/y75s4twm
- Find an approved clinical trial
tinyurl.com/zp3jesq

Insurance information and help

- Getting insurance for children (OR)
tinyurl.com/ydfaaeoy
- Getting insurance for children (WA)
tinyurl.com/yca9lkey
- Understand your health insurance
tinyurl.com/y46h8nvx
- Learn about coverage
tinyurl.com/y4639rz6
- Road map to health
tinyurl.com/yysc6kv7
- General/Oregon Health Plan Questions: 855-323-6744

Other resources

- Congenital Brain Anomalies Program - OHSU [PDF]
tinyurl.com/ya9n24sr
- Parents of Children with Microcephaly Support Group [Facebook]
tinyurl.com/ybm2pbpn
- PMG Awareness Organization
tinyurl.com/ydc4g343
- Foundation for Children with Microcephaly [Facebook]
tinyurl.com/y9kkcnmd

Books for parents and children

- Bibliography available by calling the Oregon Family to Family Health Information Center at 855-323-6744
- Swindells' online library search
tinyurl.com/y9t2jwcx