



Service Priorities and Programmes
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**Duchess of Kent Child Habilitation Institute (DKCHI) – comprehensive
Developmental Paediatrics and Neurohabilitation Multidisciplinary Team
Approach**

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Introduction

The Duchess of Kent Child Habilitation Institute (DKCHI) was initially set up in the year of 1998, as a comprehensive and integrated program of Child Neurology with Developmental Paediatrics and Neurohabilitation, within the Hong Kong West cluster to provide specialist service for children with various neurodevelopmental disorders. The centre serves the Hong Kong west region with a population of around 530, 000 people, although the Institute also provides tertiary and quaternary services to the whole Hong Kong population.

Objectives

To assess the feasibility of a multi-disciplinary team approach to provide child assessment service in a HA hospital territory

Methodology

The DKCHI is the only Child Assessment Service under Hospital Authority hospital. The Duchess of Kent Child Assessment Centre that provides detail neurodevelopmental paediatrics assessment to children presenting with different developmental problems. The centre has a multidisciplinary team that include paediatricians, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, clinical psychologists, medical social workers, audiologists, and optometrist, to provide comprehensive developmental assessment, and also interim training workshops or groups to both the children and parents. There is also an in-patient rehabilitation unit to provide intensive in-patient multidisciplinary training that include different rehabilitation programs including cognitive, oromotor, pulmonary and physical rehabilitation. Patients recovered from acute major illness in the Queen Mary Hospital with neurological deficits or neurodevelopmental disabilities will be transferred to DKCHI. The in-patient rehabilitation program provides training for the children, empowerment for the caretakers, and recommendation of home

accommodation and rehab equipment and for the family. The team also collaborates with the school team to prepare the child for returning back to the school and the community.

Result

The team in the DKCHI received new case referral of around 1,100 per year. Each year around 1,300 neurodevelopmental assessments are performed to diagnose different developmental disabilities including developmental delay, autism spectrum disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, language and related disorder, global developmental delay and intellectual disabilities, specific learning disabilities, cerebral palsy, vision and hearing impairment, developmental coordination disorder, emotional and behavioural related disorder, and others. With the correct diagnosis, appropriate rehabilitation training can be arranged for each child. The multidisciplinary team appointments for all disciplines are up to 14,000 per year including assessment and training. There are 35-40 parent and child training workshops and parent educational talks each year under different rehab program. For the in-patient rehabilitation, there are 60-70 new patients admitted as in-patient each year for the different rehabilitation programs.