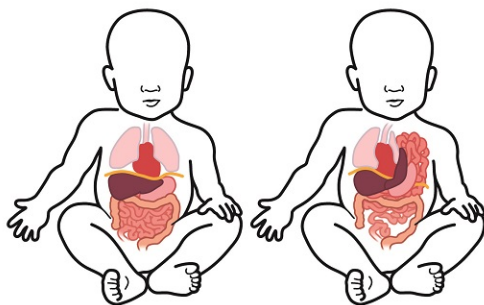




My child was born with Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia



Baby without CDH

Baby with CDH

The diaphragm is a muscle that helps us to breathe and separates the chest cavity from the abdominal cavity. Congenital diaphragmatic hernia is a defect in the diaphragm; this allows the abdominal contents such as the stomach, intestine, liver and spleen to be displaced into the chest cavity. Since these organs are in the chest cavity and not where they are supposed to be, the lungs have insufficient space to grow normally and are therefore underdeveloped.

Children born with CDH usually go on to lead fulfilling lives, however may experience a range of complications through childhood and beyond. No two CDH children are alike; the following complications may be experienced in a child born with CDH:

- lung disease or asthma-like symptoms;
- gastroesophageal reflux disease (which may impact sensory processing, appetite and weight management);
- difficulty gaining or maintaining weight;
- volvulus, adhesions or obstruction of the bowels (this can become a medical emergency);
- scoliosis;
- progressive hearing loss;
- developmental delay;
- reherniation.

Symptoms that could indicate an emergency

CDH children have experienced more pain than other children their age and hence have a high tolerance for pain and discomfort. Please keep this in mind when considering my child's presentation.

A CDHer experiencing an emergency medical episode may display shortness of breath, blue lips, difficulty breathing, chest or tummy pain, vomit with bile or blood.

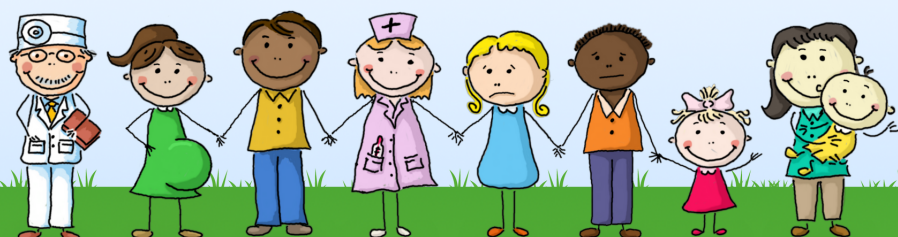
An unwell CDHer

Please call me if our child complains of pain, discomfort or appears to be generally uncomfortable.



ABN 60 131 315 145

Website: cdh.org.au





Child's name DOB

Class / teacher

Parents / guardians

Contact

GP Phone

Paediatrician Phone

Hospital contact Phone

Medicare number

Ambulance membership

Medical history

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