

Cerebral Palsy (CP)

Classifying your child's CP

There are 3 main ways to classify cerebral palsy (CP): by area of the body affected (topography), by atypical body movements and postures (movement disorder) and how they use their body to get around (gross motor function or functional mobility). This handout was developed to help your provider classify and explain your child's CP. There are handouts that cover each way to classify CP in more detail. These handouts can help you understand your child's specific classifications.

Topography:

Movement Disorder Type:

Gross Motor Function Classification Scale (GMFCS) Level:

Other:

Summary

It can be hard to classify your child's CP. Sometimes the classification of your child's CP can change as they get older and grow. If you are hearing different things from different providers, bring this up with your providers at Seattle Children's.

This handout should be used as a guide to help you focus your education on what is relevant to your child's CP.

To Learn More

- Cerebral Palsy Program
206-987-0199
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line, 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.



Seattle Children's offers interpreter services for Deaf, hard of hearing or non-English speaking patients, family members and legal representatives free of charge. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201. This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's healthcare provider.

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