Innovative Collaboration to Improve Understanding of Neuroimaging Findings in Children with Cerebral Palsy in the US: the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Cerebral Palsy Network Neuroimaging Pilot Study

Alyson B Goodman, MD, MPH1, Nilesh K Desai, MD2, Carrie Arneson3, Nancy Doernberg1, Kim Van Naarden Braun, PhD1, Deborah Christsensen, PhD1, and Marshallyn Yeargin-Allsopp, MD1

1National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2Emory University Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences & Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta; 3Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison

BACKGROUND
- Neuroimaging can provide insight into etiology, prevention & prognosis of CP
- For these reasons, in 2004 the American Academy of Neurology and Child Neurology Society issued a joint practice parameter recommending neuroimaging for all children with CP

OBJECTIVES
1. To estimate uptake of the recommendation for neuroimaging of all children with CP in the US
2. To describe the characteristics & findings of neuroimaging for children with CP in a large, heterogeneous, population-based sample in the US

APPROACH
- All four ADDM CP Network sites (Alabama, Georgia, Missouri, Wisconsin) participating in pilot study year
- Collect reports of brain MRIs, head CTs and/or cranial ultrasounds performed since birth for children with CP aged 8 years in 2012
- Establish methods for systematically classifying report findings by forming a multidisciplinary workgroup of physicians & scientists
- Conduct a literature review of population-based studies that assessed neuroimaging findings in CP
- Compare all identified classification systems to each other and those used in clinical practice

CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES
Priorities for the Classification system:
- Comprehensiveness while maintaining efficiency
- Clinical appropriateness
- Distinctness of categories
- Comparability to other population-based studies
- Potential for analytic interpretation

Six Classification Categories (in hierarchical order):
1. Congenital Malformation
2. Vascular or Perfusion Injury
3. Grey Matter Abnormality
4. White Matter Abnormality
5. Ventricular Abnormality
6. Miscellaneous Abnormality

CONTACT INFO
Please direct inquiries to Alyson Goodman, MD, MPH Phone: 404-498-6269; email: agoodman@cdc.gov

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