A stylized illustration of a hip joint, rendered in shades of yellow and purple. The femoral head and neck are prominent, with overlapping circular shapes representing the acetabulum and surrounding structures. The background is a solid purple color.

Consensus Statement
on Hip Surveillance
for Children with
Cerebral Palsy:
Australian Standards of Care
2008

Wynter M
Gibson N
Kentish M
Love SC
Thomason P
Graham HK


Consensus Statement on Hip Surveillance for Children with Cerebral Palsy: Australian Standards of Care 2008

This document is endorsed by:



Australasian Academy
of Cerebral Palsy and
Developmental Medicine

This document can be downloaded from:
www.cpaustralia.com.au/ausacpdm

The **Royal Children's
Hospital** Melbourne 


**Queensland
Government**
Queensland Health

 **Government of Western Australia**
Department of **Health**
Child and Adolescent Health Service
Princess Margaret Hospital

Every child should be referred for hip surveillance¹ at the time cerebral palsy (CP)² is identified.

The reported rates of hip displacement³ and hip dislocation³ in children with CP² vary widely in studies based on referral cohorts and has been reported from 2% to 75% (Bagg et al. 1993). However in two recent population studies, (Soo et al. 2006, Hagglund et al. 2007) the rate of hip displacement³ was found to be one-third and was not related to the movement disorder but was directly related to gross motor function as determined by the Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS)⁴. Hip dislocation³ is preventable through early identification and intervention.

Hip surveillance¹ is the process of identifying and monitoring the critical early indicators of progressive hip displacement³. Early identification is an essential part of the strategy for prevention of hip displacement³ and its sequelae³. Surgical recommendations and management guidelines are beyond the scope of this document. The Hip Surveillance¹ Standards of Care, document the recommended process for screening, monitoring and triaging to orthopaedic services as part of the overall prevention of hip dislocation³. Although the relative risk (**Figure 1**) of hip displacement³ is directly related to the GMFCS⁴ level, hip surveillance¹ is required for every child with CP² regardless of gross motor functional ability⁵.

The commencement of hip surveillance¹ is dependent on corrected age⁶ and the frequency of ongoing hip surveillance¹ is determined by radiological measures⁷, GMFCS⁴ level and clinical assessment⁸.

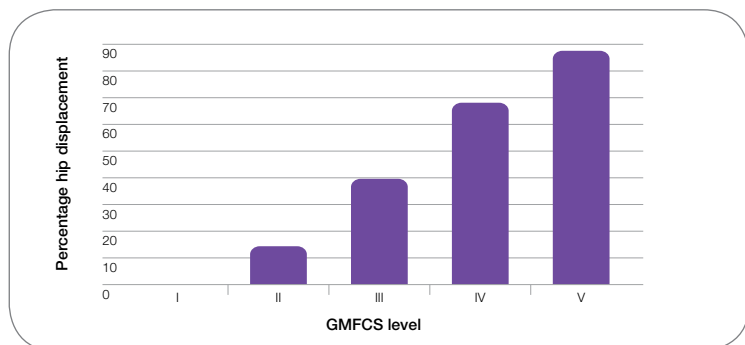


Figure 1: Hip displacement (migration percentage >30%) by GMFCS Level (Soo et al. 2006)

The prime radiological measure⁷ for hip surveillance¹ is migration percentage (MP)⁹. Changes in, or stability¹⁰ of MP⁹ over time, is more relevant than a single MP⁹ measure, hence the recommendation for repeated measures at specific intervals.

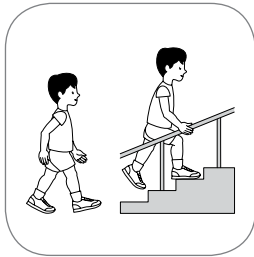
Recommended frequency of hip surveillance



GMFCS I

GMFCS I

- Initial clinical assessment⁸ and antero-posterior (AP) pelvic radiograph¹¹ at 12–24 months of age⁶ (or at identification if older than 24 months)
- Review at 3 years of age⁶
 - Repeat clinical assessment⁸
 - Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed or if identified as group IV hemiplegia as described by Winters, Gage and Hicks (WGH IV)¹² (**Figure 2**); ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification
- Review at 5 years of age⁶
 - Repeat clinical assessment⁸
 - Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed or if identified as hemiplegia WGH IV¹² (**Figure 2**); ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification
 - If GMFCS⁴ level I, and no other significant signs, discharge¹⁴ from surveillance¹



GMFCS II

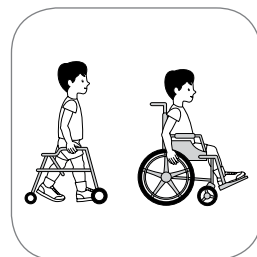
GMFCS II

- Initial clinical assessment⁸ and AP pelvic radiograph¹¹ at 12–24 months of age⁶ (or at identification if older than 24 months)
- Repeat clinical assessment⁸ and radiograph¹¹ via 12 monthly surveillance¹ until MP⁹ stability¹⁰ is established
 - If MP⁹ is abnormal¹⁵ and/or unstable¹⁰, continue 12 monthly surveillance until MP⁹ stability¹⁰ is established
 - When MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, review at 4–5 years of age⁶
- Review at 4–5 years of age⁶
 - Repeat clinical assessment⁸ and radiograph¹¹
 - Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed or if identified as hemiplegia WGH IV¹² (**Figure 2**), plan ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification
 - If MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, review at 8–10 years of age⁶
 - If unstable¹⁰, continue 12 monthly surveillance¹ until stability¹⁰ is established

- Review at 8 – 10 years of age⁶
 - Repeat clinical assessment⁸ and radiograph¹¹
 - If MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, discharge¹⁴
 - If unstable¹⁰, continue 12 monthly surveillance¹ until stability¹⁰ is established
 - Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed; ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification

GMFCS III

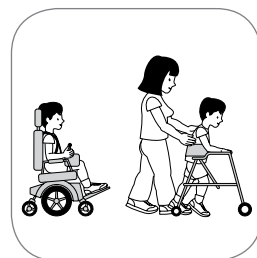
- Initial clinical assessment⁸ and AP pelvic radiograph¹¹ at 12–24 months of age⁶
- Repeat clinical assessment⁸ and radiograph¹¹ 6 months later
 - Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed, ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification
 - Repeat 6 monthly surveillance¹ until MP⁹ stability¹⁰ is established
 - If MP⁹ is abnormal¹⁵ and/or unstable¹⁰ continue 6 monthly surveillance¹
 - When MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, reduce frequency to 12 monthly surveillance¹
 - Review at 7 years of age⁶
 - If MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, and below 30%, and gross motor function⁵ is stable radiographs¹¹ may be temporarily discontinued until pre-puberty¹⁶
 - Twelve monthly radiographs¹¹ must resume pre-puberty¹⁶ and continue until skeletal maturity¹⁷



GMFCS III

GMFCS IV

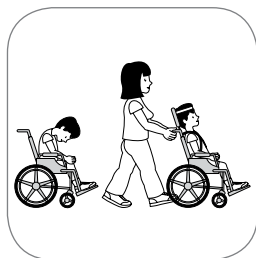
- Initial clinical assessment⁸ and AP pelvic radiograph¹¹ at 12–24 months of age⁶
- Repeat clinical assessment⁸ and radiograph¹¹ 6 monthly
 - Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed; ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification
 - If MP⁹ is abnormal¹⁵ and/or unstable¹⁰ repeat 6 monthly surveillance¹ until MP⁹ stability¹⁰ is established
 - When MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, reduce frequency of surveillance¹ to 12 monthly
 - Review at 7 years of age⁶
 - If MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, below 30% and gross motor function⁵ is stable, surveillance¹ may be temporarily discontinued until pre-puberty¹⁶
 - 12 monthly radiographs¹¹ must resume pre-puberty¹⁶ and continue until skeletal maturity¹⁷
 - Independent of MP⁹, if clinical⁸ and/or radiographic evidence of scoliosis¹⁸ or pelvic obliquity¹⁹ is present, 6 monthly surveillance¹ is required until skeletal maturity¹⁷



GMFCS IV

GMFCS V

- Initial clinical assessment⁸ and AP pelvic radiograph¹¹ at 12–24 months of age⁶
- Continue 6 monthly surveillance¹ until 7 years of age⁶
- Verify GMFCS⁴ level
 - If GMFCS⁴ level has changed, ongoing surveillance¹ according to confirmed¹³ classification
- If MP⁹ is stable¹⁰, below 30% and gross motor function⁵ is stable, continue 12 monthly surveillance¹ until skeletal maturity¹⁷
- Independent of MP⁹, if clinical⁸ and/or radiographic evidence of scoliosis¹⁸ or pelvic obliquity¹⁹ is present, 6 monthly surveillance¹ is required until skeletal maturity¹⁷



GMFCS V

Winters, Gage and Hicks hemiplegia group IV (WGH IV)¹²

WGH IV¹² gait²⁰ pattern clearly declares itself by 4–5 years of age⁶

The child with a classification of WGH IV¹² has the potential for late onset progressive hip displacement³ regardless of GMFCS⁴ level

- Verify WGH IV¹²
- Hip surveillance¹ continues 12 monthly until skeletal maturity¹⁷

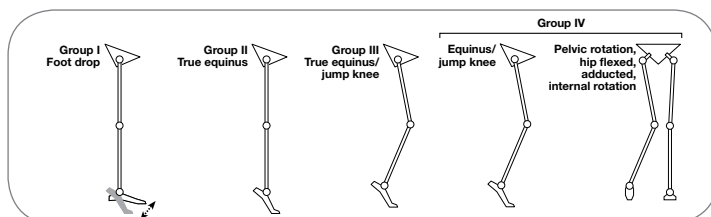


Figure 2: Hemiplegia gait patterns (Winters Gage and Hicks 1987).

Increased frequency of hip surveillance will be required when:

- Deterioration occurs in musculoskeletal measures²¹ relating to the hip
 - reduced range of movement²¹, reduced muscle length²¹
 - change in muscle tone²², including, but not limited to, increasing levels of spasticity²³
- Deterioration occurs in function⁵ including altered gait²⁰, decreased ability or tolerance of sitting or standing
- Presence of spinal deformity¹⁸, pelvic obliquity¹⁹, or significant leg length difference¹⁹
- Increased/newly developed postural or fixed asymmetry²⁴
- Increased difficulty of care/hygiene occurs
- Onset of or increase in pain referable to the hip²⁵
- Pain²⁵ of unknown origin that requires investigation

Referral to orthopaedic surgeon should occur when:

- MP⁹ is unstable¹⁰ and/or progresses to greater than 30%¹⁵
- There is pain related to the hip²⁵
- Other orthopaedic conditions²⁶ are identified

The intention of hip surveillance¹ is that orthopaedic review occurs at the appropriate time. Every child referred to orthopaedic services should be managed with an individualised management plan²⁷ which may or may not include ongoing hip surveillance¹.



**Australasian Academy
of Cerebral Palsy and
Developmental Medicine**

These hip surveillance standards of care for children with cerebral palsy were endorsed by the Australasian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AusACPDM) on 28th October 2008. Endorsement by AusACPDM is granted for a period not exceeding five years, at which date the approval expires. The AusACPDM expects that these standards of care will be reviewed no less than once every five years.

These Standards of Care are due for review by 28/10/2011

This document is one of three:

1. Consensus Statement on Hip Surveillance for Children with Cerebral Palsy: Australian Standards of Care
2. Annotations and References for the Consensus Statement on Hip Surveillance for Children with Cerebral Palsy: Australian Standards of Care
3. Explanatory Statement to Accompany the Consensus Statement on Hip Surveillance for Children with Cerebral Palsy: Australian Standards of Care

Disclaimer

This document is endorsed as a general outline of appropriate clinical practice, based on a review of the best evidence available at the time of publication, and is to be followed subject to the clinician's judgment and the patient's preference in each individual case. The AusACPDM takes no responsibility for evidence or information published subsequent to this review.

