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The NeuroCardiac Care Program

to survive and thrive

LEADING THE WAY

Just two generations ago, few children with complex congenital heart disease (CHD) survived. Today, the landscape has changed dramatically: Thousands of CHD survivors are entering adolescence and young adulthood.

The challenges of living with complex CHD do not end with surgical or other treatment, and the long-term effects are not limited to the heart. As patients mature, our understanding of the long-term effects of their disease and treatment grows. In some patients with complex CHD, there is an increased likelihood to experience problems related to neurodevelopment, such as learning disabilities, autism and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

As a world leader in pediatric cardiac care, we believe it is our responsibility at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to continue pioneering care for these children. We created the NeuroCardiac Care Program (NCCP) to provide screening, evaluation and life-long coordinated care for children with complex CHD who are at risk for neurodevelopmental issues.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **An interdisciplinary team approach**, bringing together the expertise of cardiologists, neurologists, developmental pediatricians, physical, occupational and speech therapists, nutritionist, nurses and other professionals as needed
- **Screening** for children who may be at risk for these problems
- Comprehensive, ongoing neurological and developmental **evaluation and care**
- **Educational opportunities** for pediatricians and other community healthcare providers
- **Help for families** finding programs and resources in their communities
- **Research** to help us learn and refine care for future patients

RESEARCH: HOPE FOR EVERY CHILD

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia provides a unique setting for the NeuroCardiac Care Program, with its combination of exceptional patient care resources and advanced research capabilities.

The NCCP will work closely with the interdisciplinary Research Group at CHOP, formed in 1998 to specifically investigate long-term effects of complex congenital heart disease in children. Our program's patient base will provide information critical for the Research Group's studies, which will yield learning that can benefit children the world over. The families we serve today will leave a legacy of hope for future generations.

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Cardiac Center relies heavily on philanthropic support to help advance clinical care and research endeavors, and to remain at the forefront of pediatric cardiac science. The NeuroCardiac Research Group (above), for example, was created largely due to the generous financial support of individuals and families.

CONTACT US

- To learn more about the NeuroCardiac Care Program, please call 267-426-8186.
- To schedule an appointment, call 215-590-4040