

Dear Parent, Primary Caregiver or Guardian,

We are writing to invite you and your family to participate in a research project that we are conducting at the different pediatric centres in British Columbia. We are working as part of a research team that is implementing a Canadian Cerebral Palsy (CP) Registry. The main purpose of this registry is to get information to try to better understand what causes cerebral palsy.

The Canadian research team plans to recruit as many as possible families for the CP Registry across Canada every year. This Registry will be the first of its kind in North America but will be similar to other national CP Registries in Australia and parts of Europe.

As part of this project, we will review the mother's pregnancy health chart as well as your child's birth chart, and medical and rehabilitation health records. Also, we will complete an interview to ask questions about the mother's pregnancy and past medical history. The entire interview should take about 20 to 30 minutes and can be done in person or on the phone.

By participating in this study, you and your family may help improve our understanding of what causes CP and may help enhance services for families of children with CP. It also helps us understand the incidence and prevalence of CP and if, how and why it differs from other provinces in Canada. Your participation in this project is entirely voluntarily. The decision to participate in this registry will not affect your child's care at the BC centre(s) where your child receives treatment.

Your interest in this study is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about the project, please call or leave a message for **Vivian Wong**, the research coordinator for this project, at **604-875-2345**, extension **458268** or **vivian.wong@cw.bc.ca**. We would be happy to provide further details about the project at which time you can decide whether or not you would like to participate.

Thank you very much for considering this invitation,

Ram Mishaal, MD
Developmental Pediatrician and Child Neurologist
Medical Director, Neuromotor Program
Sunny Hill Health Centre
BC Children's Hospital, Vancouver, BC
University of British Columbia

BC Children's Hospital and BC Women's Hospital & Health Centre are agencies of the Provincial Health Services Authority. As academic health centres, they are affiliated with the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, and the Women's Health Research Institute.