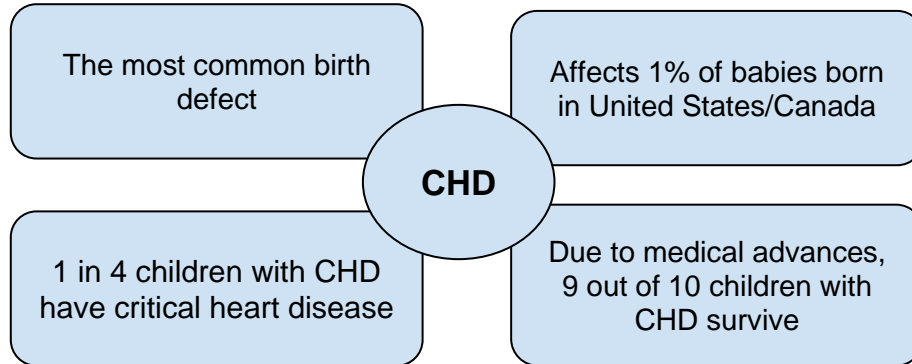


Congenital Heart Disease

What is congenital heart disease (CHD)?



Cyanotic – reduced amount of oxygen delivered to rest of body

Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome

Tetralogy of Fallot

Transposition of Great Arteries

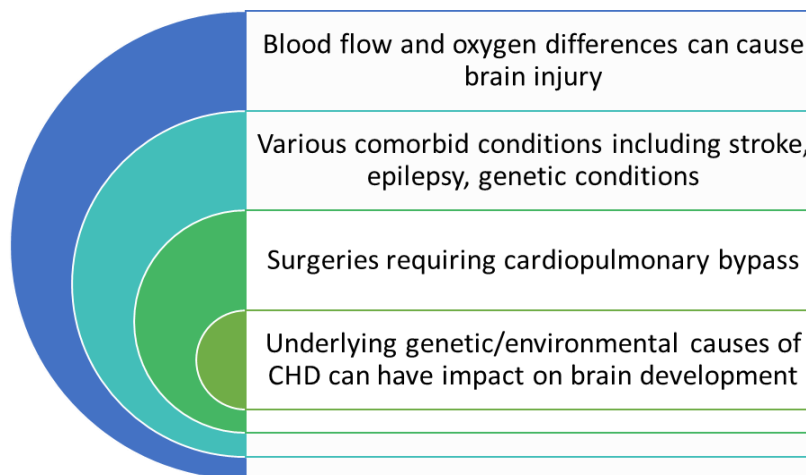
Acyanotic – does not interfere with amount of oxygen

Atrial Septal Defect

Ventricular Septal Defect

Patent Ductus Arteriosus

How does CHD affect the brain and development



Neurodevelopment in CHD

Children with cyanotic CHD

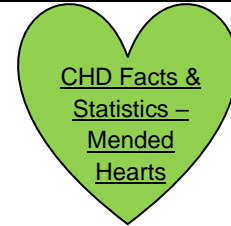
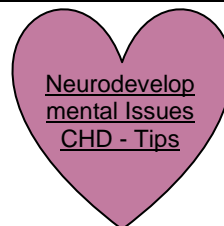
- Are more likely to have **learning disabilities**
- Have higher rates of **attention disorders**
- Are more likely to have **mood** and **anxiety** disorders

- Have greater levels of **social difficulties**
- Parents of children with CHD also struggle with **copng** and mental health

What if my child is struggling?

For learning or cognitive concerns:	For social or emotional concerns:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact your hospital as many cardiac clinics have neurodevelopmental follow-up/screening programs for children with CHD. • A pediatric neuropsychological evaluation may be particularly helpful as such an assessment can evaluate a wide range of cognitive domains that are often impacted in CHD. • Can request evaluation through the school as per The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) which requires schools to provide an evaluation for children with suspected learning disorders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak to your child’s cardiologist to find out whether a social worker or psychologist is associated with the cardiac clinic • Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) has been used in treatment of children with CHD. Some online CBT based resources can be helpful tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ www.copingcatparents.com • Parent focused interventions to support parents of children with CHD have been helpful in reducing parental anxiety and improving child and family functioning, as well as parental coping.

Resources



Additional Information

What is pediatric neuropsychology?

- ❖ Pediatric neuropsychology is a subspecialty of neuropsychology focusing on brain and behavior relationships in children.
- ❖ Visit (scn40.org/) for more information.

What is a board certified clinical neuropsychologist?

- ❖ Board certification requires a clinician to have specialized training in neuropsychology. Each has also passed a rigorous written and oral examination demonstrating knowledge and skills in neuropsychology.
- ❖ Board-certified neuropsychologists have attained formal certification by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) and the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN).
- ❖ A board-certified pediatric subspecialist has attained a formal certification in the subspecialty of pediatric neuropsychology by ABPP and ABCN.

How do I find a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist?

- ❖ You can search for a board-certified neuropsychologist or a pediatric subspecialist on the AACN website (theaacn.org/).
- ❖ Once you find a neuropsychologist near you, click on the clinician’s name for more information and how to contact the clinician.