

Paediatrics Pre-referral Guidelines – Child Development Program



**Queensland
Government**

Royal Children's Hospital
Brisbane
Children's Health Services

Child Development Program

The Child Development Program provides services to:

- Children aged 0 - 3 years 11 months who have a moderate delay in ONE OR MORE DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS
- Children aged 4 - 8 years 11 months with a functional impairment in THREE OR MORE DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS
- Health professionals – consultation/liaison service for children aged 9-13

Provision of named referrals is desirable.

Developmental problems

Initial work-up

- Obtain history from parents/carers regarding onset and course of symptoms, developmental progression, family history of developmental problems, and collateral information from school/child care if available. See [Milestones \(Qhealth\)](#)
- Refer to [Red Flags Early Intervention Guide for Children 0-5 Years](#).
- Hearing and vision assessment essential *Basic audiometry and visual acuity / eye health only- NOT behavioural optometry or auditory processing assessment*. Ensure correction of any problems prior to appointment.
- Consider [Parents Evaluation of Developmental Status](#) questionnaire (PEDS) as a way of eliciting parental concern.
- Any supporting information or previous reports from medical specialists or agencies including Child and Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS), allied health professionals or school.

Refer when

- **Red flags present at any age – Refer early – do not wait**

Aged less than 4 years:

- If ONE or more developmental areas are affected and causing functional difficulty

Aged 4 to 9 years:

- If THREE or more developmental areas are affected and causing functional difficulty

Developmental areas

Speech and language
Cognition / learning /attention
Fine and gross motor
Social emotional /play /behaviour
Self care (feeding /sleeping /dressing)

Note: If primary emotional disorder (e.g. severe anxiety/depression) refer to CYMHS.

If likely to have ADHD without other developmental concerns, refer to General Paediatric Outpatient Department.

Data needed in referral

- **Primary Reason for Referral**
Indicate which developmental areas are affected and give details.
- **Relevant Medical / Surgical History**
Standard history plus include any antenatal or perinatal factors such as drug/alcohol exposure, pre-term delivery or low birth weight.
- **Recent Investigations**
Please summarise basic audiometry and vision test reports. Organise these to be completed if not already.
- **Relevant Social History**
Indicate parental relationship issues, mental illness, substance abuse or disability; family in crisis; Child Protection/DOCS involvement; literacy/language considerations for parent/carer or other relevant information.

Clinical Advice (GP's only): Please phone 0403 190 708 for eligibility or referral advice

Referral Form Download: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/rch/professionals/gp_referrals.asp

Send Referrals to: Medical Objects Address – **HEALTH CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM QUEENSLAND (HQ4006000D8)**

Fax: (07) 3335 8713


Mail: Child Development Program

HealthLink Address - **qldrchld**

49 Corrigan St, Keperra, 4054

See final page for references, copyright, disclaimer and further contact details.
Pg. 1 of 2

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	Child Development Program Intake Officer	(07) 3335 8812	<p>Copyright 2008, Royal Children’s Hospital (RCH), Queensland, Australia. Adapted with permission from Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle, WA, USA and the Royal Children’s Hospital (RCH), Victoria, Australia.</p> <p>The RCH (Queensland and Victoria) and Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center are not responsible in any way for application of the procedures or guidelines to patient care at your facility. They are guidelines only and your professional judgment must always prevail. Guidelines may not be reproduced without permission.</p> <p>These guidelines were reviewed by specialists at the Royal Children’s Hospital and by a working group of metropolitan general practitioners in Queensland.</p> <p>Feedback or suggestions welcomed. Contact the Centre for Healthcare Excellence: CHS_CHE@health.qld.gov.au</p> <p>Last reviewed: October 2010</p>	
	Child Development Program general enquiries (via North West Community Health)	(07) 3335 8888		
	CYMHS (Child and Youth Mental Health Service) general enquiries	(07) 3310 9444		
	General paediatrics outpatient department general enquiries	(07) 3636 7818		
	Community Child Health Service general enquiries (via Primary Care Program Central Intake)	1300 366 039		
Clinical Advice (GP’s only): Please phone 0403 190 708 for eligibility or referral advice				
Referral Form Download: http://www.health.qld.gov.au/rch/professionals/gp_referrals.asp				
<p>Send Referrals to: Medical Objects Address – HEALTH CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM QUEENSLAND (HQ4006000D8)</p> <p style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Fax: (07) 3335 8713 Mail: Child Development Program </p> <p style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> HealthLink Address - qldrchld 49 Corrigan St, Keperra, 4054 </p>				
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