

Neurosciences Family Advisory Council

SUMMER, 2016

COOK CHILDREN'S NEURO FAC

Having a critically ill child is challenging, so we're here to help ease the way as much as possible. The Neurosciences Family Advisory Council is made up of parents and primary caregivers who, along with Cook Children's neurosciences staff, work to improve our family-centered care and our families experiences.

Our council meets every month to discuss initiatives and offer suggestions and feedback to Cook Children's staff members. Then we work with those staff members to help make these projects happen. If you are interested in joining the Neurosciences Family Advisory Council or have something to share, we're here to listen, and to make sure your voice is heard.

For more information call 682-885-7123 or email parents@cookchildrens.org

PHYSICIAN'S FORUM

Summer is the ideal time to begin preparing your child for the 2016-2017 school year. Below is a list of tasks that can be completed now, or in the near future. These can help decrease your stress level and help avoid a last-minute rush for preparations:

- ⇒ Finalize travel plans, required medical documents & school-related forms.
- ⇒ Request medication refills well in advance of summer trips and holiday travels.
- ⇒ Finalize summer camp plans and complete applications.
- ⇒ Apply for private school admission for next school year.
- ⇒ Request letters to initiate school evaluation process for IEP's and 504 Plans.
- ⇒ Request neuropsychological evaluation and re-evaluation appointments in order to complete the entire process prior to school resuming .
- ⇒ Request ARD meetings now to make changes for the next school year.
- ⇒ Schedule well-child visits now because summer appointment slots fill quickly.
- ⇒ Begin medication weaning/changes early in summer.
- ⇒ Talk to a school nurse about potential medical needs in the upcoming school year.
- ⇒ Update seizure action plans and school medication forms.
- ⇒ Request updated letters documenting specific needs for school (e.g., special care or dietary requirements, activity limitations, etc.).
- ⇒ Request a second labeled Rx bottle for medications administered at school.
- ⇒ Set a reminder to ask for ADHD prescription medication refills well before school begins.
- ⇒ Request summer biofeedback appointments to reinforce headache management techniques.
- ⇒ Resume a typical school-year sleep/wake/activity schedule well before school resumes.



Getting to know our Neurology Staff

SPOTLIGHT ON:



As a neuropsychologist, Dr. Morton conducts evaluations to measure a child's cognitive ability in several areas such as general intelligence, ability to pay attention memory. She also assessing the possible impact of emotional and behavioral issues upon

daily functioning.

Dr. Morton is one of three neuropsychologists located in the Dodson Specialty Clinics building at Cook Children's Medical Center.

Her specialty areas include stroke, concussion, demyelinating disorders and autism. Dr. Morton also sees patients with a variety of other medical conditions.

Education: Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science – North Chicago, IL (Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology)

Internship: Jesse Brown Veterans Affairs Medical Center – Chicago, IL (Neuropsychology track)

Fellowship: University of Illinois at Chicago – Chicago, IL (Pediatric neuropsychology track)

Contact Dr. Morton at Pediatric Neuropsychology:
682-885-7450 or neuro@cookchildrens.org

For patients leaving town for college:

- ◆ Request all high school records needed prior to high school graduation.
- ◆ Create specific academic accommodations for college prior to high school graduation.
- ◆ Consider identifying physicians in the city where the patient will be attending college to ensure easy access to healthcare

June

Tourette Syndrome
Awareness Month

Migraine & Headache
Awareness Month

Cervical Spine & Scoliosis
Awareness Month

June 23 Dravet Syndrome
Awareness Day

UPCOMING EVENTS :

July

Cleft & Craniofacial
Awareness and Prevention Month

July 14 Epilepsy Support Group 5:30p to 7p
Lower Level Medical Center Pavilion

July 16 Disability (ADA) Awareness Day

August

Spinal Muscular Atrophy
Awareness Month

Neurosurgery Outreach Month

August 12 Neurofibromatosis
Support Group 5:30p to 7:30p
School Related Issues
Medical Center Pavilion 4

Do you have topics that you would like to see covered in future newsletters?

Please email us at parents@cookchildrens.org and join the Neurosciences & Neuro FAC FB Groups



HOW TO MAKE THE BEST EXPERIENCE AT THE NEUROSCIENCES CLINIC

A series brought to You by

NEUROSCIENCES FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL

**What do I need to know when I
visit the clinic?**

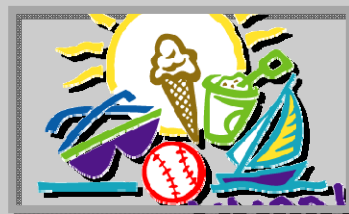
First-time visitors should bring a list of doctors they have seen, medication your child is or has been on (with doses and times given), dates of any procedures your child has had (films or CD/DVD) along with any other medical reports on your child. This will help doctors and staff have the most accurate information to best assess and treat your child.

Cook Children's Camps

Visit: cookchildrens.org/ForPatientsFamilies/programs/Camps/Pages/default.aspx

Summer Camps:

Visit the online camp directory 2016 at:
dfwchild.com/camps/campsearch.asp#



~ RESOURCES TO SHARE ~

PLEASE NOTE: Cook Children's does not endorse these resources or businesses. They are shared by parents for your convenience as a helpful guide. This information is subject to change:

Texas Parent to Parent

txp2p.org

Toll free 866-896-6001

Texas Dept. of Aging & Disabilities

www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/communications

Epilepsy Foundation of Texas

www.eftx.org

Texas Health and Human Services Commission

STAR Kids program

www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/mmc/star-kids.shtml

Office of Acquired Brain Injury

Health and Human Services Commission

www.hhsc.state.tx.us/hhsc_projects/abi/

Partners Resource Network - Path Project parterstx.org

Region 9 & 11 - Wichita Falls & Ft. Worth

Shannon Rosson

(817) 988-7717 srossonpath@gmail.com

Family Camps and Camps for children with Autism

Collen@charishill.org



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WISHING YOU A HEALTHY, HAPPY, SAFE SUMMER!