

Factsheet for Parents of Children who Stammer



Name:

Who to contact and how:

Notes:

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03033 306999

www.nlg.nhs.uk

Scunthorpe General
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Cliff Gardens
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03033 306999

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Goole & District
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Woodland Avenue
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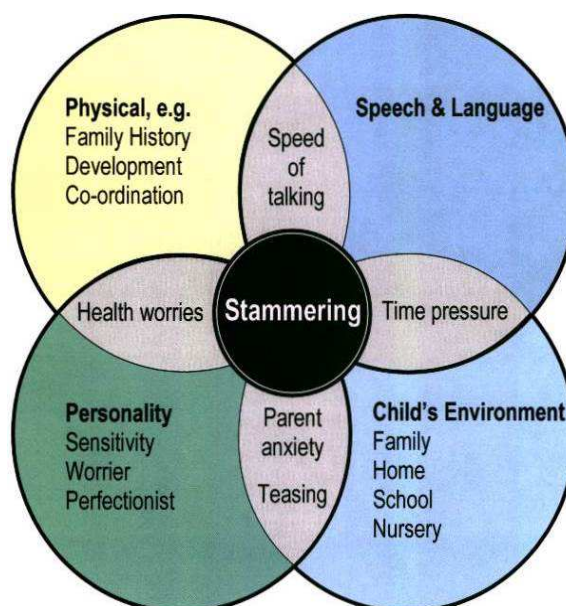
Information for patients

General Facts about Stammering

- Stammering has existed for centuries
- Many famous people have stammered, for example King George VI, Winston Churchill, Marilyn Monroe and more recently, Rowan Atkinson, Bruce Willis, Ed Sheeran and Tiger Woods
- Stammering is found in all cultures across the world and across all socio-economic groups
- Stammering is more common in boys than girls
- Stammering usually starts between the ages of 2 to 5 years when the child's speech and language is developing fast, but it can occur throughout life
- Evidence indicates that approximately 5% of all children stammer at some time during their development of language. Some are able to overcome this but for 1% of children the stammering will persist into adult life
- Research is helping us to work out which children are most likely to need help and what sort of therapy is beneficial

Causes and Development of Stammering

- Stammering is a complicated problem for which there is no single cause and no simple cure
- Research is emerging which is shedding some light on genetic factors and differences in brain function of children who stammer
- Children who stammer may or may not be “nervous” just like anyone else in the population. Children who stammer develop in other ways just like the rest of the population; they may be more or less intelligent, more or less creative etc
- It helps us to think of stammering from several angles which has been called the “Multi factorial model”



Information for patients

What is stammering?

Stammering can include many different features. None of us are completely fluent all of the time; we all have “normal non fluencies” such as word repetitions, fillers like “erm” and hesitations. Stammering may include more of these normal non-fluencies.

Stammering may also include:

- Part word repetitions e.g. Ba-ba-by
- Sound repetitions e.g. c-c-c-cat
- Prolongations of sounds e.g. Mmmummy
- Blocking – where the sound appears to get stuck
- Inserting another sound .e.g. Be- baby
- Uncontrolled pitch changes
- Disrupted breathing

Some children may develop an awareness of their stammering by:

- Avoiding speaking in certain situations
- Avoiding saying certain words
- Avoiding looking at the listener
- Moving other body parts while talking

Further Sources of Information

The British Stammering Association website:

www.stammeirng.org

www.stammering.org/expertparent

www.stammeringineducation.net

British Stammering Association helpline: 0845 603 2001

The Michael Palin Centre for Stammering Children in London / Action for Stammering Children website: www.stammeringcenter.org

“Wait wait” DVD available from the centre or through the website.

Telephone; 0203 316 8100

The Stammering Support Centre in Leeds / Action for Stammering Children website:

www.leedscommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk/cslt

Telephone: 0113 843 4331

Information for patients

Contact Details for Further Information

Diana Princess of Wales Hospital

Scartho Road, Grimsby
Telephone: 03033 303758

Children's Therapy Service

Monarch House, Scunthorpe
Telephone: 01724 203755

Scunthorpe General Hospital

Cliff Gardens, Scunthorpe
Telephone: 03033 306889

Any Comments, Compliments, Concerns or Complaints

If you have any other concerns please talk to your nurse, therapist or doctor. Our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) are available on 03033 306518 (Grimsby, Scunthorpe and Goole). You can also contact nlg-tr.PALS@nhs.net

As a Trust we value equality of access to our information and services, therefore alternative formats available on request at nlg-tr.interpreters@nhs.net

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