

Embargoed until Wednesday 18th February 2009 5.00pm

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 17 February, 2009

PERSPECTIVES ON SURGICAL OUTCOMES FOR CEREBRAL PALSY

For the first time, the long term effects of surgery aimed to correct the bone and muscular defects of children with cerebral palsy will be described.

The results of single event multi-level surgery five and ten years down the track show that:

- children who have had more substantial surgery do better than those who have had minor surgery – in other words, size does matter
- the make-up of the multidisciplinary team is important
- surgical skills counts.

Single event multi-level surgery is a single operation which tries to correct all bone and soft tissue deformities at the same time. It aims to improve mobility and reduce the time spent in rehabilitation.

These results will be presented by **Professor Kerr Graham, an orthopaedic surgeon at The Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne** who specialises in the care of children with cerebral palsy. **He will speak at the 3rd International Cerebral Palsy Conference in Sydney this week (18-21 February 2009).**

ENDS

MEDIA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE

What: 3rd International Cerebral Palsy Conference (the largest of its kind in the world)
When: Wednesday 18th to Saturday 21st February 2009
Where: Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney
Presentation: Wednesday 18th February 2009
4.10pm – 5.30pm session (presentation time 4.42pm)
Parkside Ballroom

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, MEDIA ACCREDITATION, ABSTRACTS OR TO OBTAIN A PROGRAM FOR THE CONFERENCE, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Facts about the Cerebral Palsy Institute

- Researching prevention and curative strategies for cerebral palsy
- Custodians of the Australian Cerebral Palsy Register to monitor trends
- Funding targeted cerebral palsy research through the Cerebral Palsy Institute Grants Program

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