

Further Information:

ACC

www.acc.co.nz

PMMRC

(Neonatal Encephalopathy Working Group)
www.hqsc.govt.nz/pmmrc

Cerebral Palsy Society of New Zealand

www.cpsoc.org.nz

Parent to Parent

www.parent2parent.org.nz

AIM

(Action to improve maternity)
www.aim.org.nz



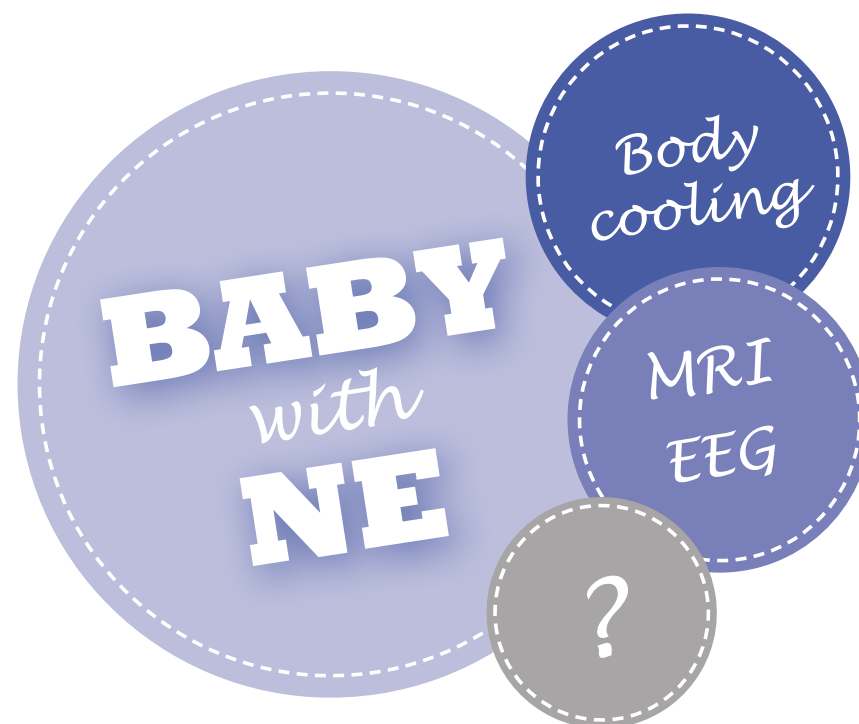
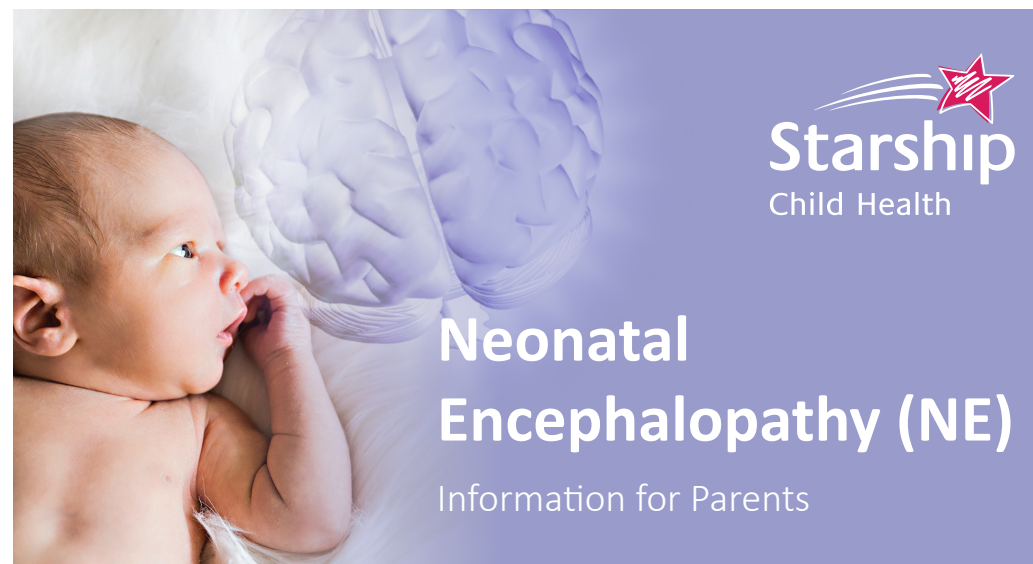
Neonatal Encephalopathy NE

Information for Parents



Healthy Communities, Quality Healthcare | *Hei Oranga Tika mo te iti me te Rahi*

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Welcome Haere Mai | Respect Manaaki | Together Tūhono | Aim High Angamua



Neonatal encephalopathy (NE) is mostly caused by a lack of oxygen and/or blood flow to your baby's body and brain. This form of NE is also called Hypoxic Ischaemic Encephalopathy (HIE). NE can make a baby quite unwell. Many babies with NE need to be in hospital after birth and some need intensive care. NE is associated with brain damage. Some babies will develop long-term neurological complications, including cerebral palsy.



What does the NICU Team do?

- Supports your baby with breathing, feeding and, if necessary, medication
- May start body cooling
- Organises necessary tests
- Tries to keep your baby comfortable
- Inform a national database (PMMRC) of a new baby with NE.

What can you do?

- Be with your baby
- Talk to them, help with their care
- Express breast milk, ask questions.

Why does my baby have NE?

We want to understand this too. We will ask you and your LMC about your pregnancy, delivery and the time after baby was born. Many hospitals will organise a meeting (multi-disciplinary review) to look into the care you and your baby received. This mostly happens several weeks after your baby's birth. The result can be discussed with you.

Care:

We aim to keep your baby as comfortable as possible. We aim to support you and your whānau as best as we can.

Support:

Family, friends and the wider NICU Team can all play a role in supporting cultural, spiritual and mental health.

Information:

It is important to us that you understand what is happening to your baby.

Please ask questions.

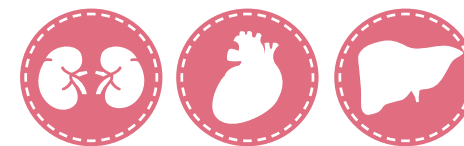
Body Cooling:
Cooling can help a sick brain

Many babies with NE need body cooling

Your baby's temperature will be lowered from 37 to 33.5 °C – This will be for 3 days

Your baby can be drowsy or irritable, can find it difficult to feed or breathe, can develop seizures

Your baby may have problems with his or her kidneys, heart or liver.



Prognosis:

We will regularly update you and your whānau how your baby is doing. We will discuss an expected outcome but can often only do this after the MRI.

Tests to aid best treatment and help the NICU team talk about prognosis
EEG/ MRI/ Blood Tests

Long-term follow up

Your doctor will make a plan with you for long-term follow-up of your baby before discharge from the hospital.