

Cerebral Palsy Alliance acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

# What is Cerebral Palsy (CP)?

We're here to assist you and your family. Getting support early for cerebral palsy can make a big difference for your child's growth and learning.

## What is cerebral palsy?

Cerebral palsy (CP) is a condition that affects how a person's brain talks to their muscles. Cerebral means brain. Palsy means muscle weakness. It is something people are born with or can get when they are very young and is the most common childhood physical disability. People with CP may have trouble with movement, balance, and speaking. Each person with CP is unique and may need different types of support.

## Types of cerebral palsy

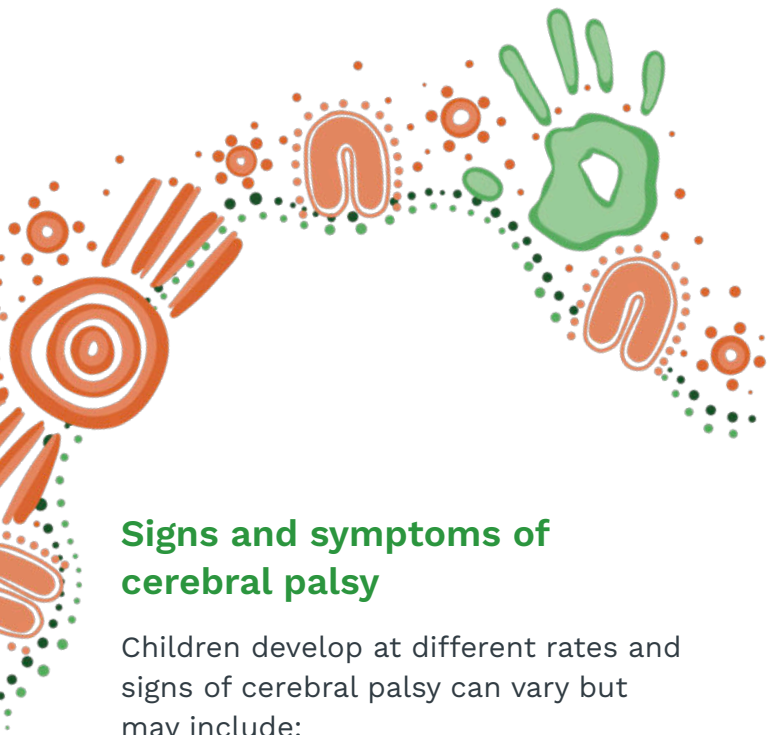
There are different types of CP, which can affect the body in different ways. Some people might have tight muscles, others may have weak muscles, and some may have both. CP can affect one side of the body, or both.

## What causes cerebral palsy?

CP happens when a child's brain is affected before, during, or after birth. This could be due to lack of oxygen, infections, or being born early. It's important to remember that CP is no one's fault.



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## Signs and symptoms of cerebral palsy

Children develop at different rates and signs of cerebral palsy can vary but may include:

- Delays in reaching movement milestones like crawling and walking
- Difficulty using hands and arms
- Trouble speaking or eating



## How CPA can assist your child

As experts in CP, we are here to assist in improving your child's movement and mobility. Our goal is to support your child to do the things which are important to them, to live a happy and healthy life. Our friendly team can provide:



**Therapies:** Our therapists can assist your child with movement, balance, speech, and eating.



**Equipment (Assistive Technology):** We provide tools and equipment like orthotics (leg supports), wheelchairs, and communication aids to make daily tasks easier.



**Other supports:** Supports are available in various centres across NSW and the ACT including accessible gyms, programs and dental services.

## How is support paid for?

The NDIS is a government program that funds support services, like therapies and equipment, for people with disabilities. Getting assistance early is important and it can take time to get NDIS funding. CPA may be able to assist you getting other funding while you wait.

We're here to assist you and your family. For questions or more information, please talk to our friendly team.

Call 1300 888 378 or visit the website [cerebralpalsy.org.au](http://cerebralpalsy.org.au)



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