Did you know that a stroke can happen at any age? Even before babies are born they can experience stroke. May is Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month and is an opportunity to bring awareness, share knowledge, and support those who have experienced stroke. Our HTC treats bleeding disorders but also has a portion of our clinic dedicated to the treatment of pediatric stroke. Our two neurologists, Dr. Armstrong and Dr. Bernard, work with infants, children, and teens who have had a stroke, and are involved in research to treat and prevent stroke in children.

While 90% of all strokes occur in adults over 50, strokes still happen to children, including babies in the womb. It is still rare for a child to experience a stroke—at about two to three children in every 100,000—but it is important to bring awareness that it does occur. There are a variety of factors that cause pediatric stroke, some that are yet unknown, but our clinic and support group help families and patients with recovery. The symptoms of a stroke in adults are better known than those of a stroke in a child. Some symptoms of pediatric stroke may be missed because many people are unaware that a child can even have a stroke.

For all ages it is important to remember F.A.S.T (Face drooping, Arm weakness, Speech difficulty, and when those are present, Time to call 9-1-1). A prompt diagnosis and treatment of stroke, no matter what the age, is critical to all who experience stroke. Children may exhibit these symptoms but it may be hard to notice them in a baby.

Additional symptoms of pediatric stroke in infants are seizures, repetitive twitching of the face, leg, or arm, and problems with sleep apnea. Babies who show marked decreased movement on one side of the body or show a preference for one hand before the age of one may also be exhibiting signs of stroke. Most children will not favor one hand or the other until after they become a year old.

While causes of most pediatric strokes are unknown, risk factors may include congenital heart disease, blood clotting disorders, infections such as meningitis, head trauma, and some genetic disorders. In about half of childhood stroke cases there is no previous risk factor identified.

Our pediatric stroke program works year round to research causes and treatment of stroke in children. We encourage all to share the signs of stroke and spread the word that it can happen to anyone, regardless of age. Simply having the knowledge of the symptoms can make a huge difference in the health and recovery of a child who is experiencing a stroke. Our HTC has a monthly support group, the Pediatric Stroke Parent Support Group, that provides help and community to families with a child who has experienced stroke. Learn more at our website here: www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc and click on the COMMUNITY tab.
Our offices, pharmacy, and clinic will closed on Monday, **May 28, 2018** in honor of Memorial Day. Please make plans accordingly if you need medication or medical attention. If you need assistance over the long holiday weekend, please see our after-hours contact information at our website: www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc & click CONTACT US.

The Bleeding Disorder Parent Support Group will meet on **May 29, 2018** at our HTC in the administrative side of our clinic from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. This group is open to parents of children with bleeding disorders; both childcare and dinner are provided. We will meet once a month on the last Tuesday of every month. The agenda is up to parents and it is an opportunity for people to come together to share knowledge, experiences, frustrations, and triumphs in a safe environment. Please RSVP to Angela Blue at angela.blue@ucdenver.edu or 303-724-0167.

NHF Colorado’s Social Factor is hosting a gathering of those in the bleeding disorder community in the Southern Colorado area in Colorado Springs on **June 23, 2018** at the Sonterra Grill: 28B S Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO. For details, and to RSVP to this event please go to: cohemo.org.

Mark your calendar for the annual NHF Unite for Bleeding Disorders Walk. The Denver Metro walk will be on Saturday, **August 25, 2018** at Sloan’s Lake Park in Denver starting at 9 am (check in at 8 am).

The RMHBDA also will hold walks in Montana. The first will be in Billings, MT on **September 8, 2018** at Zoo Montana. The second will be on **September 15, 2018** in Kalispell, MT at Lawrence Park. Both will begin at 10 am with a 9 am check in.

For any of these or other walks to support bleeding disorders throughout the country, please go to: uniteforbleedingdisorders.org.

Genetic Counseling With Telemedicine

Our HTC has a high number of people who participated in the **My Life, Our Future** (MLOF) program, and we wanted to make our female participants aware of this opportunity. If you are a female with a family history of hemophilia A or B, and you participated in the MLOF genotyping initiative, you may be eligible to enroll in a NHF sponsored Telegenetic Counseling Study.

The goal of this study is to measure the value of genetic counseling while providing genetic results to participants. All participants would receive genetic counseling using telemedicine, a secure video chat between the participant and a genetic counselor. All information produced by the session would remain confidential.

To see if you are eligible, to sign up, or to contact those leading this study for questions, please go to the NHF study page by going to hemophilia.org, click on the **RESEARCHERS & HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS** tab, and find an article about this trial under the **RESEARCH** section (located on the right hand side). You can also access this through our online newsletter at www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc and click on the **RESOURCES** and then **NEWSLETTER** tabs.
Every year our HTC schedules Outreach Clinics designed to allow patients to schedule their annual comprehensive visits at a location closer to their home. The clinics in Montana and Grand Junction are usually a few days once a year, while our Colorado Springs clinic is held quarterly.

Our staff does reach out to schedule local patients, but if these clinics are more convenient to your location and you would like to know more, please contact Pat Casias at 303-724-1325 or speak with our front desk schedulers at 888-297-0724 or 303-724-0724.

Details, forms and maps to these locations are available on our website at: www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc

Click on the CLINIC tab and find the OUTREACH CLINICS page.

Confirmed Clinics for 2018:

June 19-21, 2018: Billings, MT
Sept 26-28, 2018: Grand Junction, CO

August 13-14, 2018: Missoula, MT
Colorado Springs, Date TBD
These are a few of the headlines that we’ve recently featured on our Newsroom page or on Facebook.

BioMarin Announces First Patient Dosed in Gene Therapy Study for Hemophilia A Patients with AAV5 Antibodies

Takeda Secures Takeover of Shire in $62B Deal

Study Suggests Prophylaxis Could Reduce Hospitalizations for VWD Patients

Sharon Funk Discusses Physical Therapy and Bleeding Disorders on Ask the Expert Podcast

NHF Encourages Patients to Participate in the Second National HTC Patient Satisfaction Survey

We maintain a Newsroom page at our website with a list of the news we feel may be of interest to our patients and families. To see more go to: www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc then find the RESOURCES tab, and go to the NEWSROOM page. Find other stories at our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ColoradoHTC/

Mark Your Calendars:
May 28: HTC Clinic, Pharmacy & Admin closed for Memorial Day
May 29: Bleeding Disorder Parent Support Group
June 3: NHF Colorado Programa de Español: Greeley
June 8-10: NHF CO Family Camp
June 16-21: Camp for Kids with Neurologic Disorders at Roundup River Ranch
June 19-21: Outreach Clinic-Billings, MT
June 23: NHF CO Social Factor: Colorado Springs
July 13-15: Mile High Summer Camp-Leadership Retreat
July 15-20: Mile High Summer Camp
Aug 8-12: RMHBDA Family Camp-Rollins, MT
Aug 13-14: Outreach Clinic-Missoula, MT

See more at our Events Page on our website: www.medschool.ucdenver.edu/htc find RESOURCES tab, go to EVENTS