

# **HRINC**

## High-risk Infant Neuro-developmental Clinic

We provide families with the information and resources they need to make a difference in their child's life. Our specialists are often able to detect delays that go unnoticed.

### Who are high-risk infants?

This term refers to babies born prematurely or unwell who require intensive care in NICU. This means they may have a higher risk of short and long-term health and developmental challenges

#### What is this HRINC clinic goal?

The goal is for all high-risk infants to receive standardised surveillance from birth onward. This will allow paediatricians to predict which babies are at higher risk for poorer health and developmental outcomes and to deliver the most effective treatments and therapies. Ultimately, this will lead to better results for the child.

The clinic provides comprehensive assessment to infants and toddlers up to 36 months. Our assessment services are recommended for children who meet neonatal criteria, including:

- · Low birth weight or premature infants
- Difficult birth
- Neonatal illness
- Infants who had severe respiratory distress
- Some infants who had heart surgery
- Severe Jaundice
- Family history of neurodevelopmental delay
- Genetic disorders

#### Why Genesis Neurodevelopmental Clinic?

HRNC is designed to accurately assess and determine if each child is developing to the best of their ability. We work to detect a broad spectrum of challenges early to minimise severe developmental delays in the future. Early intervention can positively impact the quality of life as the child grows and develops.

#### What to expect?

First appointments are typically scheduled when a baby is discharged from NICU. After the first visit, follow-up appointments are strategically timed for critical milestones until the child is three.

During a one-hour visit, an interview and a developmental exam are conducted. We look at each child's fine and gross motor development, muscle tone and reflexes, cognitive development, medical history and present medical needs, vision, hearing, and current and past medications and diet. In addition, we also review all reports and information provided by parents.

Ultimately providing a treatment plan and, if needed, a referral is made to our multidisciplinary team, including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, audiology and ENT.

We work with the child's caregivers to show them ways to encourage language, learning and motor skills through play, provide information on optimal nutrition, and connect families with vital resources in the community that may be needed.