CLEFT REGISTRY & AUDIT NETWORK

Annual Report 2021

CRANE is a national registry and clinical audit. It aims to evaluate and report on the delivery of cleft services to children in England, Wales and Northern Ireland with the congenital abnormality of cleft lip and/or palate. This year's report focuses on data collected over the 3 years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic's impact, and summarises information on the 1st year impacted by the pandemic.

Registry Information

21,865 The total number of children registered in CRANE, over the last 21 years, since 2000.

898 Number of registrations in 2020, the first year impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

86% of babies with a cleft were born at term (>37 weeks). This compares to 92% in the general population.

Cleft palate diagnosis times are improving, with more than ¾ of babies with a cleft diagnosed in the first 24 hours after birth, despite the impact of COVID-19 on services.

83% of families were referred to a cleft team within 24 hours of birth and 96% of families received contact within 24 hours of referral.

98% agreed to the collection of outcome data, of families with verified consent status.

Audit Outcomes at 5 years of age

Body mass index

87% of children with a cleft had a healthy BMI. Children most likely to be of normal weight are those with CP, UCLP or BCLP.

Dental health

62% of children with a cleft had no decayed, missing or filled teeth (dmft=0) , compared to 77% of their non-cleft peers.

Facial growth

38% of children with a complete unilateral cleft lip and palate (UCLP) had scores reflecting good dental arch relationships.

Speech

60% of children with a cleft affecting the palate had speech within the normal range. The proportion of children with 'normal' speech varied according to cleft type.

Psychology

82% of children with a cleft had 'Strengths and Difficulties' scores¥ in the low/normal range, compared to 90% of their non-cleft peers. Furthermore, 97% of families were screened at least once before the target age of 6.

Research

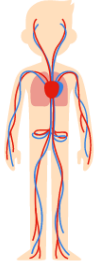
Congenital malformations in children born with a cleft

39% of children had additional congenital malformations.

These were most common in children with CP (53%), followed by BCLP (36%), UCLP (26%) and CL (22%).

The circulatory, musculoskeletal and digestive systems were the most likely to be affected.

Congenital malformations of the circulatory system and speech at age 5



Children without malformations of the circulatory system were significantly more likely to have speech without difficulties than those with these malformations.

Differences in speech outcome between girls and boys at age 5 ?

Females with a cleft palate +/- lip achieved significantly better speech outcomes than males at age 5.

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