

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Medical Therapy Program (MTP) provides occupational and physical therapy to children who have chronic, long-term physically handicapping conditions. MTP therapists are pediatric specialists.

**MISSION:** Our mission is to collaborate with the child and family to maximize the child's functional independence with life skills.

**VISION:** We utilize an integrated team approach that includes the child, family, MTU conference team, teacher, and primary care physician. We develop comprehensive therapy programs through cooperation, communication and mutual respect of all team members. We incorporate integral components of the child's life as they relate to therapy goals.

## If you have questions...

If you have questions about your child's therapy program, ask your child's therapist. If you have questions about the Medical Therapy Unit or CCS procedures, talk with the unit supervisor. Any questions about financial eligibility or medical treatment other than therapy should be directed to your case manager at the CCS main office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Therapy Unit (MTU)

\_\_\_\_\_  
MTU Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
MTU FAX

\_\_\_\_\_  
MTU Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Therapist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Occupational Therapist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Office Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
CCS Case Manager/Phone

**Children's Medical Services  
(CMS)  
California Children's Services  
(CCS)**

## Medical Therapy Program



## Parent Guide

**THE MEDICAL THERAPY PROGRAM**

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The Medical Therapy Program (MTP) staff includes physical and occupational therapists and emphasizes a team approach. Services provided by the MTP change as your child changes. Because it is a medical based program, therapy requires a physician's prescription.

### **MEDICAL THERAPY UNIT (MTU) CONFERENCE**

Children receive therapy under direction of a private physician or the MTU Conference team physicians. Although your child's primary care physician will continue to provide routine health care, your child's therapy program and related special needs will be managed by a team that includes the child, parents or care providers, physician specialists, orthotist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, nutritionist, and social worker. School personnel may also attend. Team conferences (also known as "clinics") are held regularly at the MTU to coordinate therapy services. You may be asked to attend once or twice a year depending on the therapy needs of your child.

As a parent or caregiver, you must accompany your child to the conference. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child's program, and bring up any questions you may have.

The following are some areas that may be addressed by the conference team:

- Reviewing diagnoses
- nutrition and/or medication
- assessment of therapy needs, including setting goals
- recommendations for equipment
- other resources which may be able to offer assistance

For families covered by a health maintenance organization (HMO), this conference may serve as a consultation.

### **General Information**

**Evaluation:** This is the process by which you and your child's therapist look at what your child can do, what therapy can do to help, and set functional goals. Depending on your child's needs, evaluations take place once every 6 or 12 months.

**Treatment:** The frequency and type of therapy depends on your child's needs. Services are provided on an individual, group, monitor, or consultation basis, or a combination of these. How services are provided depends on your child's physical functional needs and stage of life.

**Equipment:** When braces and/or durable medical equipment are recommended by the physician, the therapist and parents will determine what best fits the needs of the child.

The MTU therapists will:

- evaluate your child's therapy needs
- provide appropriate treatment in accord with goals
- develop a personal home program
- conduct a home visit if appropriate
- consult with your child's school and other care providers
- recommend adaptive or positioning equipment
- notify you when therapy appointments must be changed

Physical therapy may include:

- gait or walking
- gross motor skills
- balance

Occupational therapy may include:

- feeding
- fine motor skills
- self help skills
- sensory processing skills
- splinting
- assistive technology

As a parent or care provider with a child in the CCS Medical Therapy Program, you will:

- participate in setting treatment goals for your child
- carry out the therapeutic home program provided by the MTP therapists
- share your concerns and expectations for your child
- have your child followed regularly by a physician familiar with your child's disability
- keep your scheduled appointments or contact the MTU if you are unable to attend
- keep informed on equipment your child uses
- communicate with your CCS case manager.

