



Indian Association of Cerebral Palsy (IACP)

IACP is the result of many painful experiences- the grief and complaints of parents, practice of nonscientific therapeutic measures without any auditing, practice of known scientific measures without looking into Indian socio-economic and geographical (70% rural population) conditions and without any monitoring or auditing of results, non- availability of management facilities under one roof, tremendous unawareness about this medical condition, emigration of professionals, especially the therapists who as such are too few in the country itself and so on.

Therefore, the founder members decided to have a professional body fully devoted for the cause of cerebral palsy (CP) and associated disorders and can motivate professionals to work in this field also. In the year 2004 the body was registered and named as Indian Academy of Cerebral Palsy.

The body has following aims and objectives:

1. To prevent Cerebral Palsy
2. To create infrastructure for early diagnosis and early intervention
3. To improve medical care
4. To incorporate teaching on CP during graduation and post graduation
5. To conduct annual conference
6. To encourage research
7. To publish quarterly journal entitled The Indian Journal of Cerebral Palsy
8. To develop research facilities
9. To bring awareness among professionals
10. To prepare and conduct short term course, workshop, CMEs for various professionals
11. To help IFCP achieve its goals

Thanks to Indian Family of Cerebral Palsy (IFCP) that has helped in developing IACP. IFCP has decided to continue to help IACP financially and in networking till IACP is fully developed and stands on its own feet.

IFCP in collaboration with NIMS, Hyderabad has developed a clinical software on CP so as to observe and compare the results of various therapies and also to observe the natural history of a child with cerebral palsy. In other words to see



what happens to such a child if he/she does not undergo any therapy. The founder members have decided to use it in a multi-centric trial of various therapies.

India is a vast country with a huge population. It has different cultural and geographical conditions, people with tremendous financial constraints, ignorance about the condition and severe constraints to travel with a child who is unable to walk. Undoubtedly the answer to this problem a lot in conducting cerebral palsy camps. This will probably fulfill all these deficiencies of Indian society. With our experience of last 18 years whereby we have conducted around 40 camps. We have realized that conducting camps is one of the best solutions to cater to the need of this society. In no time good multidisciplinary team can bring tremendous change towards the welfare of the families having such children. This strategy would also help to perform scientific research and auditing of present Indian conventional methods of management. The results would be ready in a short period of time in a good number of cases. This would further help in progress of future scientific projects on stem cell research, neuronal tissue transplant, neural stimulation, etc. Indeed, these procedures are a challenging task in the field of cerebral palsy. Scientists are not able to perform well in such therapeutic trials because of multiple sites of damage to the brain. The scientific studies are indeed extremely complex. The joint efforts by various scientists all around the globe through this central body, IACP in India, will help to perform such a difficult and challenging task.

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