

MEDICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

“PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER”

CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S SERVICES



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CALIFORNIA CHILDREN SERVICES

CCS is a statewide program providing medical care and rehabilitation to children with physical disabilities. CCS provides medical case management and financial assistance to children who qualify for the program.

The therapy program is one integral part of the overall CCS program that provides physical and occupational therapy services to medically eligible children. This part of the program provides direct service.



WHAT IS A MEDICAL THERAPY UNIT (MTU)?

An MTU is space where physical and occupational therapy are provided on the grounds of a public school.



WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE MTP?

To see the child achieve the highest level of independence in functional skills.

To train the family, caregivers, and educators



WHAT IS THE REFERRAL PROCESS?

- Anyone can refer a child with a presumptively eligible condition.
- Physicians, education, agencies, PHN's, parents.
- Only the parent or legal guardian may apply and consent to services.



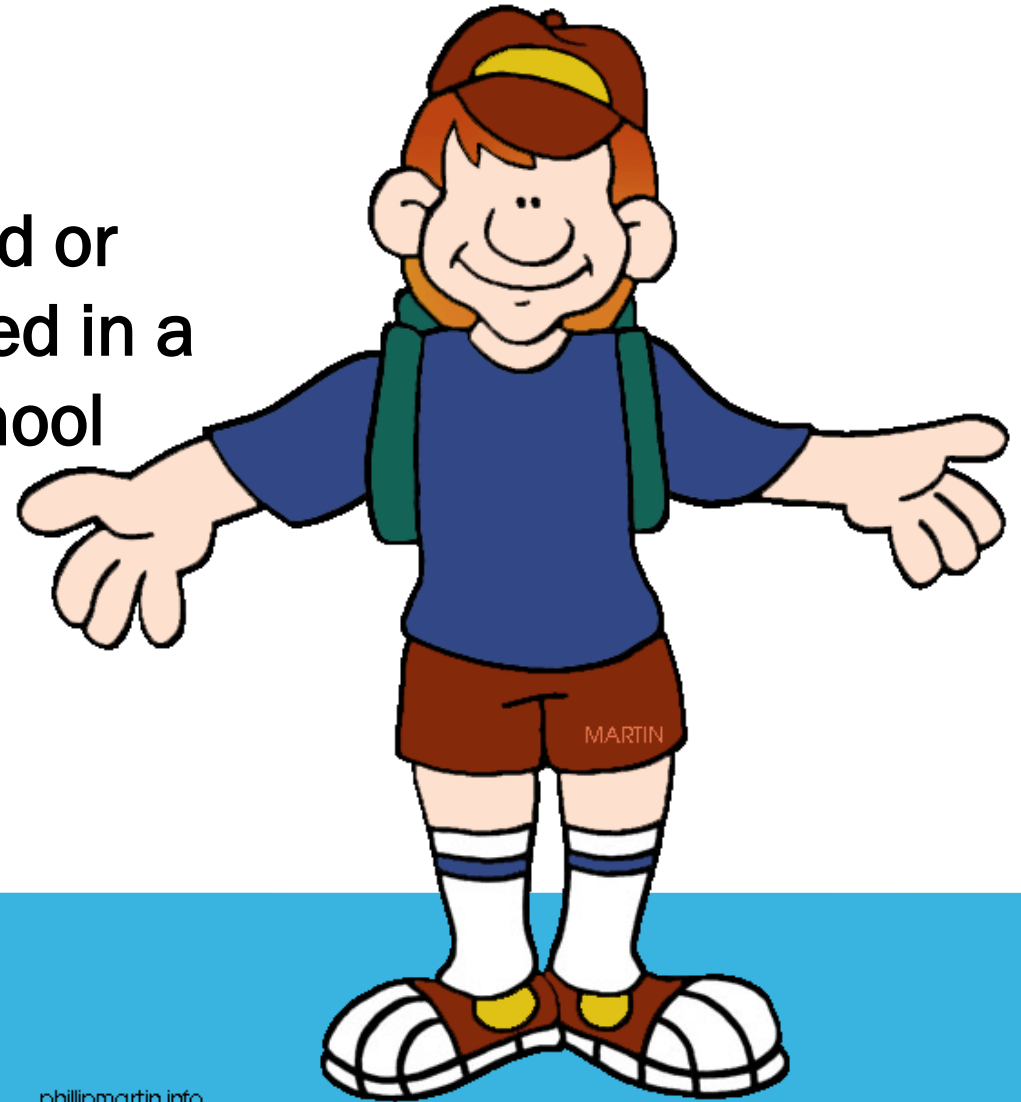
HOW ARE REFERRALS SUBMITTED?

- **Physicians –a Service Authorization Request for therapy or specifically for MTP Services.**
- **Schools –submit an LEA/SELPA referral packet ensuring communication between the school district and the MTU.**

Parents – call CCS Central Office

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- **Age:** birth to 21
- **Residential:** children enrolled or who are eligible to be enrolled in a San Diego County public school
- **Medical:** children who are determined to be medically eligible
- **Financial:** none



MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE MTP

Two Groups of children are served in the MTP:

1. Children with neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, or muscular disease
2. Children under 3 years old without a clear medical diagnosis but with symptoms that indicate a high chance that they may have an eligible diagnosis in the future



GUIDELINES FOR MTP ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

The following slides detail the criteria that the Therapy Consultants use when determining MTP eligibility.



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Per Health and Safety Code 100275, 123830, 123835, 41831; 41832 and NL 05-0500

CCS applicants with one of the following conditions shall be medically eligible for participation in the CCS Medical Therapy Program

- **Cerebral Palsy: a non-progressive motor disorder with onset in early childhood resulting from a non-progressive lesion in the brain manifested by the presence of one or more of the following:**
 - **Rigidity or Spasticity**
 - **Hypotonia with normal or increased deep tendon reflexes and exaggeration of or persistence of primitive reflexes beyond the normal range**
 - **Involuntary movements that are described as athetoid, choreoid, or dystonic**
 - **Ataxia, manifested by incoordination of voluntary movement, dysdiadochokinesia, intention tremor, reeling or shaking of the trunk and head, staggering or stumbling and broad-based gait.**

- Neuromuscular conditions that produce muscle weakness and atrophy, such as poliomyelitis, myasthenias, and muscular dystrophies
- Chronic Musculoskeletal and connective tissue diseases or deformities such as osteogenesis imperfecta, arthrogryposis, rheumatoid arthritis, amputations and contractures resulting from burns
- Other conditions manifesting the findings listed in #1 above such as ataxias, degenerative neurological disease or other intracranial process, such as traumatic brain injuries.



At Risk Category:

CCS applicants under three years of age shall be eligible when two or more of the following neurological findings are present:

- Exaggeration of or persistence of **primitive reflexes** beyond the normal age (corrected for prematurity)
- Increased deep tendon reflexes (DTR's) that are **3+ or greater**.
- **Abnormal posturing** as characterized by the arms, legs, head, or trunk turned or twisted into an abnormal position.
- **Hypotonicity with normal or increased DTR's** in infants below one year of age. In infants above one year of age must meet criteria described in (A) (1) (b) above
- **Asymmetry** of neurologic motor findings of trunk or extremities.

The above findings must be from a current medical report (< 6 mo old) and preferably from a neurologist since it is most likely that a neurologist will document the above findings in the report.



CASE OPENING PROCESS

If child is eligible 3 things are needed prior to case being opened

- OT/PT **prescription**
- Signed **application** by the parent or Court Appointed Legal Guardian (with appropriate documentation)
- **Current medical report** documenting CCS MTP eligible condition.





If an eligible diagnosis is not determined (lack of information/ conflicting medical information), the child is referred to Neurodiagnostic clinic where the child is seen by a neurologist. This is paid for by CCS.

Results will determine if the child eligible

Clinic is held monthly at the San Diego South MTU. It is managed and run by the Therapy Consultants

NOT MEDICALLY ELIGIBLE

- If a child's case is not eligible, a Notice of Action (NOA) is issued to the family notifying them of the decision.
- The family has a right to appeal any service that has been denied.
- An appeal can be filed by the parent. Instructions for an appeal are found on the second page of the NOA



MTP ELIGIBLE

Once eligible the case is sent to the MTU

Families go through a CCS orientation

Then PT and/or OT evaluations are scheduled and performed.



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WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED?

- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy



OUTPATIENT REHAB CENTER CERTIFICATION

All MTUs are certified as Outpatient Rehab Centers (OPRC)
Stringent requirements must be met in order to bill Medi-Cal

Regulations require a current physician exam and physician signed treatment plan that includes:
diagnosis, prognosis, date of onset, frequency of service, functional goals and objectives, functional status, and benefits of previous therapy.



KEYPOINTS ABOUT THERAPY

- Directed towards functional outcomes
- Based on rehabilitation principles
- Support to classroom teachers
- Parents are trained & expected to carry out home programs



PHILOSOPHY OF THERAPY

To assist the child in obtaining his/her maximum level of independence in areas of functional skills such as mobility, ambulation , transfers, feeding, dressing, hygiene, grooming, toileting and home skills



THERAPY SERVICES

**Level of service is decided by the treating therapist
In conjunction with the doctor providing medical
direction after full evaluation by all team members
Treatment is delivered as infrequently as will result
In greatest gain for the individual receiving the
services**

Levels of service include:

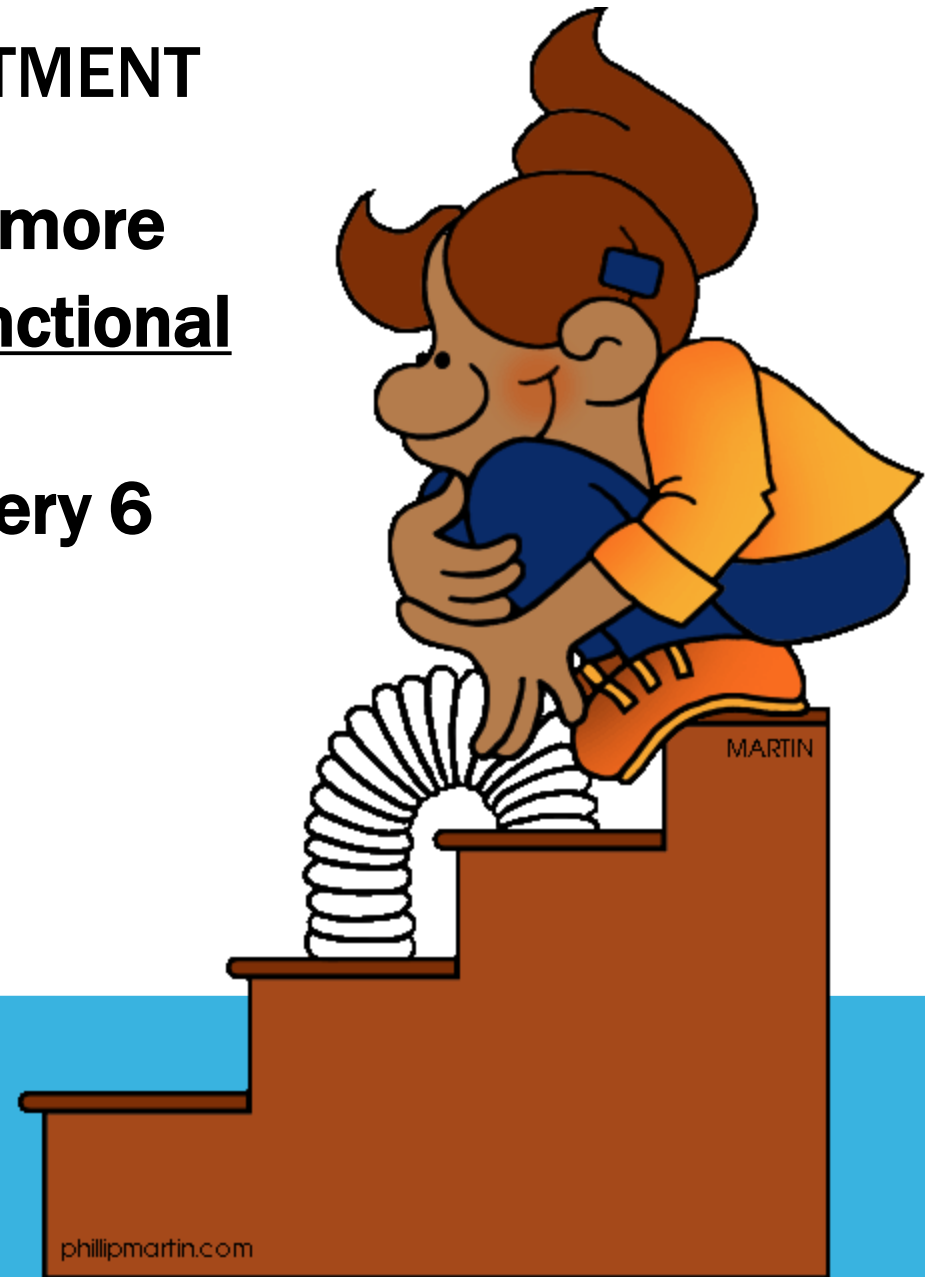
- **Treatment Services and**
- **Monitoring Services**
- **Clinic Only.**



ACTIVE TREATMENT

Child is seen 1 time a week or more

- **Treatment is on a specific functional goal**
- **Requires a medical report every 6 months**



MONITOR TREATMENT




- 2 times a month
- 1 time per month
- Every 3 months
- Every 6 months

These children are either very functional and don't require hands on treatment or the child is lower functioning and is not progressing towards specific goals.

- Requires a medical report every 12 months

CLINIC ONLY

- Child is not working towards a specific goal but it is necessary to keep case open to the MTU for equipment needs or for orthopedic management.
 - Child is seen on a as needed basis.
 - Case remains open as long as the Medical Director deems it necessary
 - Requires a medical report every 12 months
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REASONS FOR CLOSURE TO MTP

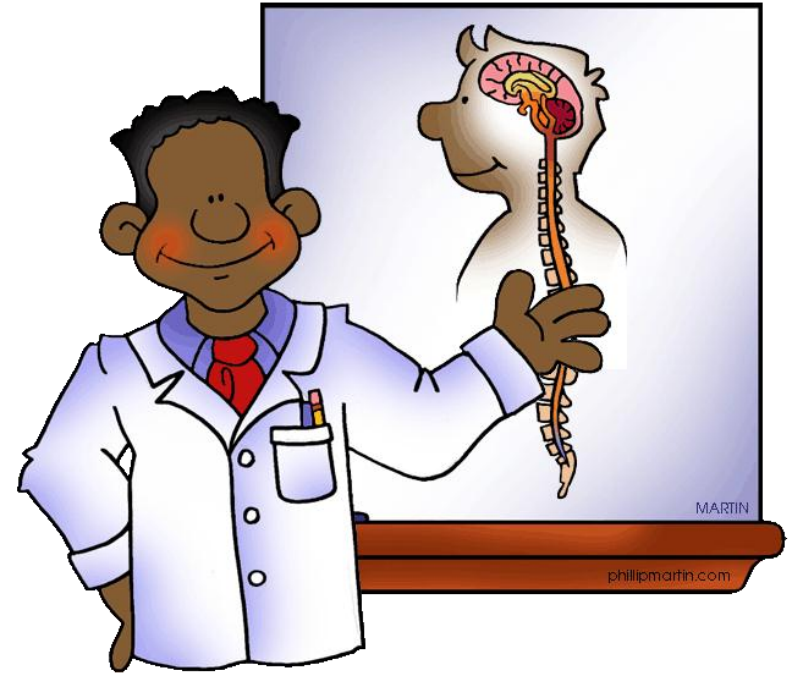
- **Non-Compliance**
- **Does not have a medical eligible condition anymore**
- **Child does not have specific needs anymore**
- **Lack of medical direction**
- **Child turns 21**



RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

When a family does not accept the level of services recommended there must be resolution

The method used is called
Resolution of Conflict
with an Expert Physician.




RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

An expert physician is authorized by CCS to physically examine the child AND to review the child's history of therapy services in order to make the determination regarding the child's medical therapy needs that are in dispute. Expert decisions are final and binding



MTU LOCATIONS IN SAN DIEGO

- **San Diego North at Lindbergh/Schweitzer School**
 - **El Cajon MTU at Sevick Educational Center**
 - **Vista MTU at California Avenue School**
 - **San Diego South MTU at Kimbrough Elementary**
 - **Chula Vista MTU at Greg Rogers School West**
 - **Escondido MTU at Nicolaysen Center**
 - **Poway Satellite- at Los Penasquitos Elementary School**
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NOW YOU HAVE THE PIECES...



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PUT THEM ALL TOGETHER AND YOU HAVE ...



THE TOTAL PICTURE OF THE...

Medical Therapy Program



MARTIN



THANK YOU!

**SLIDE PRESENTATION PREPARED BY:
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**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
MEDICAL THERAPY PROGRAM 2013**