



**Support at
Evelina London
for children after
stroke or acquired
brain injury**

What support is available?

We give advice and treatment to children affected by stroke in infancy, childhood or in their teenage years.

A stroke happens when the blood supply to part of the brain is cut off. The causes and effects of a stroke are different depending on how old the child is, which parts of the brain are affected, and their medical history.

We offer a range of advice and care on medical treatment, and rehabilitation or therapy, depending on each child's needs. We work closely with families to make sure that you have the information you need, and access to appropriate help and support in your local community.

The service is run by doctors, therapists and neuropsychologists who have expert knowledge of stroke care. We also work closely with local teams in the community and in other hospitals, to support your child's care.

Who can use the service?

1. Infant, child and young people after stroke.
2. Some clinics also see patients with other forms of acquired brain injury (ABI)
3. Children can be referred to the service after an admission at Evelina London, or by their paediatrician, paediatric neurologist or other medical consultant at Evelina London.

Where you need to go

There are several stroke clinics that run on different days and in different places. Your appointment letter will indicate the specific location of the clinic you have been invited to. Directions to the hospital are on our website.

Who you will meet

Some clinics focus more on medical advice, and others focus more on therapy advice. Who you meet will depend on which clinic you come to. This may include:

Consultant children's neurologist

To give advice on medical management and treatment options after a stroke or ABI.

Occupational therapist

To give advice on rehabilitation options after a stroke or ABI.

Neuropsychologist

To give advice on issues including education, mood and behaviours, social relationships, and family functioning.

How long does it take?

The clinic appointments can last 1 to 2 hours, and might involve talking about your child's medical history, completing assessments and agreeing a plan for further assessment, treatment or review.

If you have specific questions or concerns that you would like the clinic to address, it can help to ask the person who refers you to include these in their letter.

What you need to bring

Please bring any recent letters from doctors or therapists involved in your child's care. It is also helpful to bring your child's health record ('red book') and a list of any medicines that your child is taking.

If your child is coming for an assessment by the occupational therapist, please make sure they are wearing appropriate clothing for the therapist to watch their movement, such as a T-shirt and leggings or shorts.

What happens next?

You will be sent a copy of any letters or reports that summarise discussions and treatment plans. These can also be sent to your GP and other appropriate professionals.

Useful sources of information

Childhood Stroke Association

phone 0303 3033 100

web www.stroke.org.uk/childhood-stroke

Child Brain Injury Trust

phone 0303 303 2248

web www.childbraininjurytrust.org.uk

The Children's Trust

web www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/brain-injury-information

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about your appointment, please contact the clinic secretary, **phone** 020 7188 3993, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

For more information on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, visit **web** www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/leaflets

Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline, **phone** 020 7188 3003, Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm

email letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS), **phone** 020 7188 8801 **email** pals@gstt.nhs.uk. To make a complaint contact the resolution department **phone** 020 7188 3514 **email** complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk

Language and accessible support services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch, **phone** 020 7188 8815 **email** languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS 111

This service offers medical help and advice from fully trained advisers supported by experienced nurses and paramedics. Available over the phone 24 hours a day, **phone** 111, **web** www.111.nhs.uk

NHS website

This website gives information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you take control of your health and wellbeing, **web** www.nhs.uk

Leaflet number: 3859/VER3

Date published: June 2023

Review date: June 2026

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A list of sources is available



Guy's and St Thomas'
NHS Foundation Trust