



What is CHERUBS?

No one knows what life is like with a child born with CDH like the other parents who have walked this path. It is a very emotional, stressful, and physically demanding time. Just knowing you are not alone can make all the difference in the world. CHERUBS was founded so that no family has to go down this path alone.

Our Organization

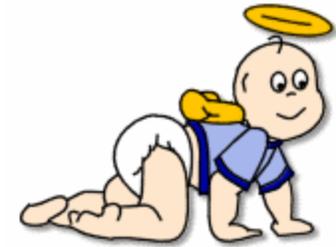
CHERUBS is an international organization for families and care-givers of children and adults who are diagnosed with Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH). As of January, 2008, we have over 2100 members in all 50 states and 33 countries. Our Board Members include the founding father of in-utero surgery, genetic counselors, epidemiologists, nurse practitioners, parents of CDH survivors and non-survivors, and some of the best pediatric surgeons in the world. We are a volunteer-run organization and a United States Internal Revenue Service recognized 501(c)III Non-Profit Organization.

For more information, you can reach us at:

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270 Coley Rd
Henderson, NC 27537, USA

Telephone: (252) 492-6003
Fax: (707) 924-1114
E-Mail: info@cherubs-cdh.org
Website: www.cdhsupport.org

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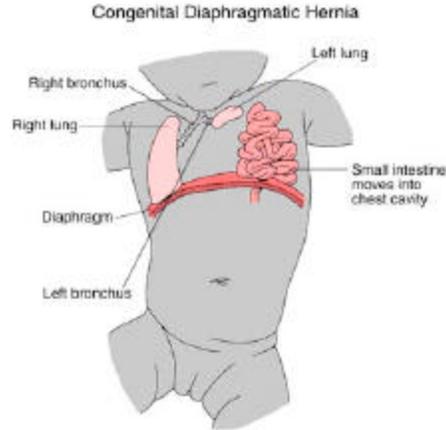
The Association Of Congenital
Diaphragmatic Hernia Research
Awareness, and Support



Over 2000 babies are born each year in the United States with C.D.H. 50% of these babies do not survive. 50% win the CDH war but many still fight battles. Help us to fight this war against Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia.

CHERUBS is here for these families, offering information and support, bringing awareness to Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia and promoting research to help find the cause and prevention of this devastating birth defect.

"We are fond of one another because our ailments are the same"- Jonathon Swift



What is CDH?

Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH) occurs in approximately 1 in every 2,500 births (1,600 cases in the U.S. each year). The cause of CDH is not yet known. The diaphragm is formed in the first trimester of pregnancy and controls the lungs' ability to inhale and exhale. CDH occurs when the diaphragm fails to form or to close totally and an opening allows abdominal organs into the chest cavity. This inhibits lung growth.

Every patient diagnosed with CDH is different. Survival rates depend on the types and number of organs involved in the herniation and the amount of lung tissue available. There are many surgical procedures and complications that may or may not occur with each individual, including in utero surgery.

Roughly 50% of babies born with CDH do not survive. Of the 50% that do survive, most will endure long hospital stays, feeding issues, asthma and other problems. A few of the survivors suffer from severe long-term medical issues.

CDH occurs as frequently as Spina Bifida and Cystic Fibrosis, yet there is very little research being done and virtually no media coverage.

What Can CHERUBS Do For Parents?

Quarterly Newsletters- We publish newsletters 4 times a year, packed with new CDH research information, pictures and stories of real cherubs, organization updates, advice from parents, and much more.

Parent Reference Guide- A reference guide for new and expectant parents, filled with information about CDH; definitions of commonly used medical terms, advice, and news from the medical research world.

Online Support- Each month, parents with access to the Internet are able to communicate live in our own chatroom, from around the world, sharing tips, concerns, and advice. We have chats for all members and special chats for grieving parents, fathers, and our older cherubs and their siblings. We also have forums, blogs, personal albums, listservs, links databases, personal messaging system and more to help us maintain contact when not chatting.



Medical Research Library- We offer our members access to our ever-growing library of medical journal articles and medical books dealing with CDH and the complications that can accompany such long, traumatic hospitalizations.

Parent-to-Parent Matching- Through parent matching, our members can build friendships, talk and listen to other parents, have pen-pals, and share with other parents their triumphs and tribulations. A listserv discussion group is dedicated to parents reaching others online.

On-Call Volunteers- We have members on-call to listen to parents and help them through the tough times. Our office is also on-call to listen to parents and answer questions.

Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Research Survey- Our members have the chance to participate in research that may someday uncover the cause of CDH. By answering family and patient medical history questions, we may find a link that can provide a cure to preventing CDH in babies of the future.

Referrals- We offer referrals to your local and state support groups and medical research libraries, as well as referrals to those parents wishing to learn more about in utero surgery and tracheal ligation.

How You Can Help CHERUBS To Help Families

- Refer families dealing with CDH to CHERUBS
- Donations are much needed and tax-deductible
- Help sponsor an event or fundraiser
- Participate in our fundraisers
- Purchase and wear / use our CDH Awareness items
- Sponsor a newsletter printing or mailing
- Make copies of this brochure and give them to your hospital pediatric and obstetric departments
- Pass this brochure along to anyone that you know in the media
- Learn more about CDH! Please visit our site for information on Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia



CHERUBS On The Web
<http://www.cdhsupport.org>