

General areas of health and development



Pediatric rehabilitation helps children and youth live well, build resiliency and take part in activities meaningful to them and their families. Care involves children, youth and families every step of the way. Families and healthcare providers work together to:

- Take part in activities that are important to them
- Set therapy goals and activities to help children and youth develop skills
- Recover from a range of health conditions

AHS offers services for children and youth who have (neuro) developmental and/or medical conditions. Services focus on:

- Health and developmental needs of infants and children in the early years
- Episodic care for children and youth in the child and youth years

Services are provided in community, outpatient and specialized rehabilitation settings. The healthcare providers involved in care may vary. Some of the most common ones include Audiologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Speech-Language Pathologists and Therapy Assistants.

The table below is a guide to the general health and developmental areas that AHS pediatric rehabilitation services can help with. Each box includes examples of the healthcare providers that may be part of your team.



<p style="text-align: center;">Communicating</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of speech sounds • use of words to communicate thoughts and ideas • speaking smoothly and easily • how the voice sounds • understanding spoken language and listening <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech-Language Pathologists • Therapy Assistants 	<p style="text-align: center;">Eating, Feeding and Swallowing</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concerns with the safety or efficiency of eating and drinking • concerns with getting enough nutrition or hydration • ability for the child to feed themselves <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech-Language Pathologists • Occupational Therapists • Therapy Assistants
<p style="text-align: center;">Equipment to Support Communication</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of equipment to help children talk and understand (i.e. strategies such as pointing to pictures or using tablets that generate speech) • this is often called Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech-Language Pathologists • Occupational Therapists • Therapy Assistants 	<p style="text-align: center;">Equipment to Support Movement and Function</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • need for specialized equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs, standing frames • making of splints, orthotics and specialty casting <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Therapists • Occupational Therapists • Therapy Assistants

<p style="text-align: center;">Hearing</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • screening and assessment to identify hearing loss • management of hearing loss • hearing health <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audiologists • Speech-Language Pathologists • Therapy Assistants 	<p style="text-align: center;">Moving and Physical Development</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • motor development (e.g. head control, sitting, rolling, crawling, walking, playing with toys with small parts) • movement and function • pain management • respiratory health • infant head shape and infant neck tightness <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Therapists • Occupational Therapists • Therapy Assistants
<p style="text-align: center;">Participation in Childhood Activities; Taking Care of Self</p> <p>Services help with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • participation in activities typical for their development, such as play • self-care (e.g. dressing, toileting, sleeping, personal hygiene) • self/emotional regulation (e.g. difficulty with outbursts, meltdowns, becoming overwhelmed) <p>Rehabilitation providers often involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Therapists • Therapy Assistants 	<p style="text-align: center;">Team-Based Services</p> <p>Your child or youth may need help from more than one type of healthcare provider. The care team works with children, youth and families to support participation in activities that are important to you. Working together helps everyone to focus on your biggest priority for your child and family.</p> <p>Other healthcare providers who may be part of the team include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Workers • Early Childhood Intervention Program • Respiratory Therapists • Psychologists • Registered Dietitians • Infant Hearing Screeners • Nurses • Physicians • Biomedical Engineers, etc.

