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PROGRAMMES OF PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN IN SLOVENIA

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HEALTH CENTER CELJE

- 400 employees
- 64 000 inhabitants in 4 municipalities



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- Directives for the implementation of preventive programmes at the primary health care level:

Government gazette Republic of Slovenia

No.19, 12.3.1998,

No. 31, 25.3.2005

The personal doctor for preschool and school children is a paediatrician or school doctor, exceptionally a general practitioner (family medical practitioner)



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Staffing standards for preschool children:

target: 850 children per preschool doctor's team

minimal: 1000 children per preschool doctor's team

- PRESCHOOL DEPARTMENT CELJE: 4 paediatricians + 7 nurses
- 4235 children 0 – 6 years



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PREVENTIVE PROGRAMS IN NEONATAL DEPARTMENT IN HOSPITAL

- Complete physical exam
- Prophylactic eye care to prevent neonatal gonococcal ophthalmia
- Administration of vitamin K to prevent vitamin K deficient bleeding
- Screening test for fenylketonuria and congenital hypothyreosis (add new tests?)
- Screening for hearing loss
- Screening for developmental dysplasia of the hip (clinical exam and ultrasound of hips)
- Screening for critical congenital heart disease (not yet in list of rules)
- Screening for congenital cataract (not yet in list of rules)
- Hepatitis B vaccination for children of HepB positive parents
- Vaccination against TBC only for those with family connections in countries where TBC is more frequent (before 2005 was universal)



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COUNSELLING IN NEONATAL PERIOD

- The importance and benefits of breastfeeding
- Prevention of sudden unexpected death in infancy
- Prevention of shaken baby syndrome
- Safety in the traffic: “First drive – save drive”
- Reducing smoking by parents



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BABY AT HOME

- Home care nurse visits mother and baby 24 – 48 hours after discharge from hospital
- 6 visits in the 1th year (4 visits in 1th month)
- 1 visit at age 2years and 1 at age 3years
- Counseling: breastfeeding, nursing of navel, child nursing, psychological needs of infant, safety at home, health nutrition for the whole family
- 2 visits are dedicated to mother after the labour (mother's health, feelings, after delivery depression)
- Home care nurses are polyvalent



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TEAM OF PAEDIATRICIAN: PREVENTIVE EXAMS AND COUNSELING

- Preventive exams with individual counselling:
 - at age 1 month
 - at age 3 months + 1th vaccination DTPPHiB
 - (2nd vaccination DTPPHiB at 4,5month)
 - at age 6 months + 3th vaccination DTPPHiB
 - at age 9 months
 - at age 12 months + vaccination MMR
 - at age 18 months + revaccination DTPPHiB
 - at age 3 years + systematic psychological examination
 - at age 5 years + speech assessment



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TEAM OF PAEDIATRICIAN: PREVENTIVE EXAMS AND COUNSELING

GOALS:

- the early identification of children with developmental and behavioural problems:
 - physical development
 - neurologic and motor development
 - language development
 - early detection of mental health disorders
- detection of inborn diseases or genetic anomalies which were not able to recognised in neonatal period
- prevention of diseases (vaccination, counselling)



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TEAM OF PEDIATRICIAN: PREVENTIVE EXAMS AND COUNSELING

Exam:

- Medical history
- Measurements: height, weight, circumference of head
- Screening of eyesight and hearing
- Neurologic developmental status
- Speech development
- Clinical exam (skin, fontanel, heart, lungs, abdomen - liver, spleen, genitals, feet, lymph nodules...)



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TEAM OF PAEDIATRICIAN: PREVENTIVE EXAMS AND COUNSELING

- Children with identified developmental problems are referred to paediatrician, who is specialized for developmental disorders
- The team of developmental paediatrician: neurophysiotherapists, psychologists, logopaedists or. speech therapists, special educators
- **Early developmental intervention has long-term benefits**



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TEAM OF PEDIATRICIAN: PREVENTIVE EXAMS AND COUNSELING

- **Counselling:**
 - Nutrition
 - Motor development (not to restrict the child in activities)
 - Emotional development
 - Speech development; reading
 - Sleeping
 - Prevention of accidents
 - Prevention of rachitis
 - Healthy life style



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TEAM OF PEDIATRICIAN: PREVENTIVE EXAMS AND COUNSELING

- Laboratory exams:
 - At 6 months: urine
 - At 9 months: hemogram
 - Afterward: if necessary



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Thank you for your attention