

Miracle League Player Description Abbreviations and Explanations

Dev. Delay or I.D.: developmentally delayed or intellectually delayed – generally in all areas of development. Motor, social, speech, cognitively. Formerly to as Mentally retarded, MR

Autism: also Autism Spectrum, aut., ASD, these kids' communication skills are very different, both expressively and receptively. Spoken language is hard to understand and express. Symbols, gestures and sign language are usually more effective. Short, patterned phrases like "safety violation" "not appropriate" or whatever the family/school are working on with the child. Social skills usually poor. Often hyper sensitive to sounds and visual stimulation, sometimes wind and temperature. Don't do as well in new situations. Like routine and predictability. Picture stories, sequence explained.. Wide variations of the disorder seen, so kids will need LOTS of help to just a verbal re-direct sometimes. Other terms associated: Asperger's Syndrome and PDD-NOS (pervasive developmental delay, not otherwise specified)

Sensory Integration Disorder: SI probs, difficulty putting different sensations together to make sense/ or give appropriate response. OR may exhibit hyper-sensitivity or decreased sensitivity to things in environment. Loud noises may set them off, light touch may not feel good to them, constant movement may be their way of stimulating their own brains

Verbal – NonVerbal: refers to the level of speech they have.

Receptive Language: recep lang – refers to how much what is said to the child is actually understood

Expressive Language: spoken words, expr lang

Communication: comm. or CM

Cerebral Palsy: CP, some sort of brain trauma affected the motor skills of the limbs. See references to tone below. Not necessarily cognitively involved (thinking, reasoning, problem solving skills)

Lo Tone: refers to muscle tone. Floppy, uncoordinated... to needing support in a wheelchair (WC) may want to sit down or lay down a lot

Hi Tone: spastic muscles, tight limbs, subject to reflexive, all- over movements, can be more pronounced in one half of body or another. May use WC or walker

Ambulation: walking ability, also may use amb.

Gross Motor: GM, large movements of the arms and legs, walking, running, swing bat

Fine Motor: FM, smaller movements involving hands and fingers, opening packages, feeding self

Down Syndrome: dev. Delay of various degrees, low muscle tone, sometimes difficult speech because even the tongue is a muscle,

Visually Impaired: VI...can range from total blindness to black spots in their field of vision, to no peripheral vision or blindness on just one side. Cortical blindness or CVI

ADD: Attention Deficit Disorder – will need redirection to help focus, easily distracted

ADHD: Attn. Def with a Hyperactive Disorder component – non-stop movement at times. Usually likes wild movements and spinning and daredevil moves

Muscular Dystrophy: MD – progressive muscular wasting, usually begins in the trunk then spreads to limbs. Don't want to get these kids tired.

Hydrocephaly: excessive fluid on the brain, causes damage if not drained

Anencephaly: some or part of the brain never developed

Sacral Agenesis: the end of the spine, sacrum, failed to develop, lots of nerves exit there, probably damage and odd gait

Epilepsy: electrical activity of brain can become irregular, causing convulsions, mild to severe cases with corresponding brain damage

Various Syndromes and Chromosome deletions: generally these kids have a distinct look about them, sometimes in the head and facial areas, some internal abnormalities. Often there is development delay, learning difficulties, vision and speech problems, motor skills delays. May refer to as: chrom abn.

Apraxia: difficulty with purposeful movements,

Ataxia: incoordination, irregular muscular movements

Arthrogryposis: condition where the joints fuse early, limb development is affected, weight bearing can be limited, limiting movement, possible deformities

O2 – Oxygen

G-tube: a tube that goes directly into the stomach and nutrition is delivered because the person is unable to swallow properly or digest well and requires a special diet.

Epilepsy: seizure disorder

Incontinent: unable to control bowel or bladder, diaper used, make sure you know the child's sign for bathroom if he/she does not speak. Let parent handle this.

ASL: American Sign Language

Tuberous Sclerosis: small benign tumors grown on internal organs, often involves some degree of dev. Delay

Opitz Syndrome: metabolic problem, congenital, causes multiple organ problems, some typical external features and retardation

William Syndrome: specific internal and external abnormalities, dev. Delay

Lissencephaly: malformation of brain with resulting cognitive and motor and sensory problems to various degrees

FAS: Fetal Alcohol Syndrome could include: low birth weight, small head circumference [failure to thrive](#), developmental delay, organ dysfunction, facial abnormalities, including smaller eye openings, flattened cheekbones, and indistinct philtrum (an underdeveloped groove between the nose and the upper lip), epilepsy, poor coordination/fine motor skills, poor socialization skills, such as difficulty building and maintaining friendships and relating to groups, lack of imagination or curiosity, learning difficulties, including poor memory, inability to understand concepts such as time and money, poor language comprehension, poor problem-solving skills, behavioral problems, including hyperactivity, inability to concentrate, social withdrawal, stubbornness, impulsiveness, and anxiety

What is Chiari Malformation?

Chiari malformations (CMs) are structural defects in the cerebellum, the part of the brain that controls balance. Can cause a range of symptoms including dizziness, muscle weakness, numbness, vision problems, headache, and problems with balance and coordination. There are three primary types of CM:

- **MOEBIUS SYNDROME**: rare neurologic disorder affecting cranial nerves. Cannot move their faces or eyes laterally. Possible skeletal involvement and issues with respiration, speech, swallowing, vision, sleep and weak upper body strength.
- **FETAL VALPROATE SYNDROME**: linked to the use of certain meds during mother's pregnancy. Can cause autism, spina bifida, facial and skull deformities.
- **SUCCINIC SEMIALDEHYDE DEHYDROGENASE DEFICIENCY**: Metabolic disorder marked with psychomotor retardation, low muscle tone, incoordination, hyperactivity, self-injurious behavior, sleep problems, tremors and epilepsy, hyper reflexivity, language deficit

MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY: chronic, progressive, multi system disease marked by wasting of muscles, metabolic/endocrine changes, cataracts, heart problems