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Natalie Trice and Linda Milnes

This month we focus on a Facebook page ‘Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip UK Forum and Support Group’

Developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH) is a condition that affects approximately 1 in every 1,000 new-born babies with the frequency of hip dysplasia being 10 times higher where family members have DDH. If DDH is not detected early and treated the impact on the child and family can be a life time of pain and intervention. Despite the challenges the treatment and care for a child with DDH brings for parents/carers and indeed for children as they grow into adulthood there is limited psychosocial support available.

In the face of this the closed Facebook page DDH UK Forum and Support Group has grown into a valuable discussion board. A community of families has been established where vital peer support and advice is offered and accessible at any time of day. It is important to note that medical advice is not offered through the site but paediatric nurses are welcome to join the group to help their understanding of the impact DDH has on families’ lives. Paediatric Nurses can also recommend the site to parents and young people. The site now has 361 members from across the world with moderators in the USA and Australia responding to queries when the UK founder Natalie Trice is unavailable.

Compiled by Natalie Trice, author, publicist and writer and found of DDH UK Forum and Support Group and Linda Milnes, Associate Professor in Children and Young People’s Nursing, University of Leeds on behalf of the RCN RiCH community.