



DINO Parent Newsletter

Newsletter for the Docosahexaenoic Acid (DHA) for the Improvement of Neuro developmental Outcome in preterm Infants: The DINO TRIAL February 2005

Dear Parents

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the DINO Parent Newsletter. The DINO study is progressing very well. We have now enrolled 304 babies, which brings us closer to our target of 477 babies that we need to complete the study. We will continue to enrol families until August 2005. Some of the babies enrolled in DINO will be turning one over the coming months, we wish them all a very Happy 1st Birthday. As part of the study all babies are followed up until they are 18 months (corrected age), we look forward to observing their progress again at this time. Thankyou again for participating in this important Neonatal Study.

Facts



In 2002, 2637 babies were born at less than 32 weeks gestation, 51.3% of these were boys and 48.3% were girls. Enrolled in the DINO Study to date, there are 153 boys and 151 girls as well as 51 sets of twins and 3 sets of triplets.

'DINO Family'



'Introducing Gabby, Ella and Tess'
These three beautiful girls are daughters of Melissa and Scott from Karoonda in South Australia. They have all participated in the DINO Study. Gabby & Ella were enrolled in the initial smaller study titled "Little DINO" and Tess is enrolled in the current National DINO Study.

WEB PAGE

We now have a web page available for families to access information relating to the DINO Study. The site contains general information about the DINO study as well as an Appointment Schedule, Parent Newletters and Contact Details for all of the hospitals participating in the study.

To view our web page, please go to:

www.wch.sa.gov.au/research/trials/babies/dinostudy.html

Coordinator Contact Numbers



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Change of Details

It is really important that we follow up all babies in the DINO Study until 18 months corrected age. This is the only way we can assess the long term treatment effects of the study. To update your details, or those of a family contact, please completed the enclosed 'Change of Details' form and forward it to the Study Coordinator at the hospital where your baby was born. Names and addresses of coordinators are listed above.

Thank you

DINO Study Staff



Louise Goodchild and Ros Lontis

We would like to introduce you to some of the staff from the hospitals who are participating in the DINO Study. Ros and Louise share the job of Neonatal Research Nurse at the Women's & Children's Hospital. They have a total of about 45 years of Neonatal nursing experience between them!!

FAQ's ???

What does 'Corrected Age' mean?

To identify an infant's true developmental age we calculate what is termed their 'corrected age'. To do this simply subtract the number of weeks your baby was born premature from your baby's actual age. For example, if your baby was born 8 weeks premature and they are now 16 weeks old, their developmental age or corrected age would be 8 weeks. The reason this is important is that you wouldn't expect a 16 week old pre-term baby to be doing the same things as a full-term 16 week old baby as their developmental ages are quite different.



If you have any feedback regarding this Newsletter or would like to contribute to it, please contact us at:

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