



The Child Development Centre is a tertiary, hospital based unit providing services both centre based and in the community. The interdisciplinary team are involved in specialist assessment and management of children (0 – 15 years) with severe or complex developmental needs. In providing developmental health care to children and their families, staff strive to provide culturally sensitive services that reflect best current professional practice and aim to meet the following goals:

### **ACCESS:**

- To be accessible and respond quickly and effectively to inquiries or referrals
- Provide clinic brochures and other written information that are relevant and helpful

### **ASSESSMENT PROCESS:**

- Provide a co-ordinated assessment by one or more health professionals.
- Perform skilled and respectful assessments
- Welcome the family's involvement in the assessment process

### **ASSESSMENT FINDINGS THAT DESCRIBE:**

- The developmental strengths and needs of the child
- The nature of the developmental problem and its effects on the child's overall function
- The cause, if known, and genetic implications
- Intervention options.
- Implications for the future if appropriate.

### **MANAGEMENT/OUTCOMES:**

- Together with the family, identify short and long term goals
- Provide relevant educational material and information on support services
- Provide a continuum of care with family doctor and local community service providers
- Provide a written report with the opportunity for family to discuss findings and recommendations

### **REVIEW:**

- Provide an effective review mechanism to monitor progress and review goals
- To anticipate and prevent problems
- Be accessible and responsive to concerns and complaints from parents

### **ADVOCACY:**

- To advocate on behalf of children and families.