

## Does Even Mild Periventricular Hemorrhage Affect Neurodevelopment in Preterm Infants? (1)

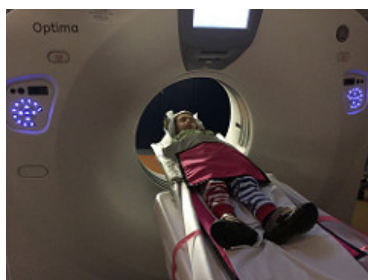
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One of the complications we encounter in our high risk or preterm newborns is that of periventricular/intraventricular hemorrhage (PIVH) —some cases being more severe than others.

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One of the complications we encounter in our high risk or preterm newborns is that of periventricular/intraventricular hemorrhage (PIVH) — some cases being more severe than others. Once discovered it is common for parents to ask us what their infant's PIVH will mean neurodevelopmentally—whether it is mild or severe.

To help answer that question, Mukerji et al. ([doi:10.1542/peds.2015-0944](https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2015-0944)) performed a systematic review and meta-analysis of studies on neurodevelopmental outcomes based on the severity of the PIVH. 21 studies were included in the meta-analysis—all observational. Although a good number of these studies suffered from one type of confounding bias or another, the aggregate analysis identified that even mild PIVH carried higher odds of having moderate to severe neurodevelopmental

impairment.

Just why this phenomenon might be occurring in mild PIVH forms the basis of a most interesting commentary by pediatric perinatal neurologist Dr. Joseph Volpe ([doi:10.1542/peds.2015-3553](https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2015-3553)) who shares his thoughts as to why outcomes might be affected negatively even after a mild germinal matrix intraventricular hemorrhage. This review article and commentary are well worth reading and in turn sharing as needed with families of children who experienced all levels of PIVH severity to better enable them and you to monitor for neurodevelopmental delays and in turn implement early intervention services that might improve outcomes in this high risk infants.

### Further Reading

- [Incidental Findings on Brain and Spine Imaging in Children](#)
- [Congenital Brain and Spinal Cord Malformations and Their Associated Cutaneous Markers](#)
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