Conclusions:

- The adherence to Lord Laming recommendations is generally good in all areas.
- There have been improvements, especially in communication with general practitioners and social services.
- A few aspects of documentation, history taking and physical examination were unsatisfactory and have deteriorated as compared to the previous audit.
- This audit illustrates the need for ongoing training for all health professionals in child protection procedures

1417

CHANGES IN MOTHER-CHILD INTERACTIONS IN VERY PRETERM AND FULLTERM DYADS FROM PRESCHOOL TO MIDDLE CHILDHOOD

J. Jaekel¹, D. Wolke²

¹*Department of Psychology, ²Department of Psychology and HSRI, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK*

Methods: Changes in dyadic mother-child interactions were investigated in a geographically defined prospective whole-population sample of very preterm and/or very low birth weight children (VLBW/VP; $n = 265$) and compared to a matched sample of fullterm controls ($n = 276$).

Results: At both 6 and 8 years, VLBW/VP children were less persistent and socially engaging and their mothers behaved less sensitive and more controlling. Differences in maternal behavior between groups disappeared once adjusted for child IQ. The patterns of change over two years in child overall activity, maternal sensitivity and verbal control, as well as harmony of interactions were similar in both groups. However, significant improvements in task persistence and social interaction were found for VLBW/VP children only. Structural equation modeling confirmed that bidirectional influences shaped mother and child behavior development and, specifically, that VLBW/VP child characteristics predicted maternal behavior over time.

Conclusions: Mothers of very preterm children are *not* less sensitive or controlling but their behavior is attuned to the level of cognitive functioning of their

children with the aim to facilitate attention regulation and task persistence.

1418

LEUKODYSTROPHY & ITS EFFECTS ON REHABILITATION OF CHILDREN WITH COCHLEAR IMPLANT: A PRELIMINARY CASE STUDY

S. Luthra, A. Nagarkar

Speech Pathology & Audiology, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India

Leukodystrophy is genetic, abnormal growth of white matter of nervous system, creating hindrance in the transmission of electrical nerve signals. The features associated may range from changes in cognition, speech disturbances, SN hg deficits, intellectual decline & behavioral changes.

5 out of 8 children implanted at the, with CI 24M NUCLEUS implant with straight electrode array had Leukodystrophy in MRI findings. The anatomy of cochlea & cochlear turns being normal aided us in getting acceptance in favor of implantation from the pediatric neurologist. The purpose of presenting this case report is to solve the mystery, that the problems in speech development (post therapy), is the result of leukodystrophic changes in the brain or it is due to the problem in auditory processing (as a result of leukodystrophic changes in brain) or both of them are linked. These children had varied levels of difficulty in listening & speech & language acquisition post implantation. Moreover they are striving hard to perform better on integrated speech & listening scale.

Furthermore, it can also be hypothesized that leukodystrophies may interfere with our expectations after implantation & may be indicative of APD.

In fact, it really remains to be seen if such children should be implanted or what best can be done in such cases. If such kind of problems persist, then will it be better to put the child on total communication rather than fitting him with CI, & causing more psycho-social stress for the family, the child himself & also for the therapist??