

Dr Shan Ong

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Developmental Paediatrician

13 March 2006

Dr Szenna Zec
209 Clovelly Road
CLOVELLY NSW 2031

Dear Szenna

RE: Miss Tamsin Colley Born: 10/09/2002 Age: 3 Years 6 Months

DIAGNOSIS : **Ataxia post resection of pilocystic cerebellar astrocytoma
Dysarthria
Right IV nerve palsy**

I had the pleasure of reviewing Tamsin together with her mother on 13/3/2006. Since I last saw her 6 months ago, she has had another MRI scan to review the issue of a residual posterior fossa cyst. The scan shows no pressure effect resulting from the cyst. She is due for another MRI scan in June. She will then be reviewed by Charles Teo. She continues to have physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology from the brain tumour rehab team. Her language skills are developing. She is able to form sentences, but continues to have dysarthric speech. She can walk independently indoors, but requires help when walking outdoors. She therefore uses a walker and can walk for up to 100 metres. She still has falls frequently. Her fine motor skills have now fallen into the impaired range according to her occupational therapist. She can feed herself with a spoon and drink from a cup, but she does have difficulty and therefore spills quite a lot. She had a chronic intermittent cough and was seen by the speech pathologist who thought that there could be a possibility of aspirating water if she drinks with her head tilted back. She needs assistance with undressing and dressing. She is being toilet trained at the moment and is able to get onto the toilet herself. She has started attending 2 days at preschool this year and is very happy there.

On examination Tamsin appeared well. She was assessed on the Brigance 3 year old preschool screen and she achieved a high score of 91/100, thus passing the screen and having skills within the average range for her age. She however did have difficulty with the gross motor tasks and was not able to do any of the tasks which included standing on one foot, walking tip-toe or walking heel to toe. She continues to walk with a wide based gait and appears a little unsteady. She can speak sentences but there is difficulty with articulation and so it is difficult to understand her speech at times. She was very calm and settled and appeared to have very good attention span. She was able to thread a small bead onto a string and place small pegs into the holes of a board. There is still intension tremor with her fine motor skills but this appears to be improving slowly. She is able to rote count up to 10. She built a tower of 8 blocks with 1 inch cubes. She was able to throw a ball in the right direction.

I was pleased with Tamsin's overall progress and I can appreciate that her motor discordination is becoming quite significant.

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I encourage her mother to continue with her various forms of therapy and to arrange a psychometric assessment for next year to assist with school entry for the Year 2008. I have asked to review her in a year's time.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely



Shan Ong

cc: Dr K Tan, Eastgardens Eye Centre, Westfield Office Tower, Suite 501, 152 Bunnerong Rd, Eastgardens 2035
cc: Dr H Johnston, Paediatric Neurologist, Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick 2031
cc: Dr C Teo, Level 7, Prince of Wales Private Hospital, Barker St, Randwick 2031