

Worldwide, a baby with a cleft is born every 3 minutes. We believe that every child suffering from cleft lip or cleft palate deserves a smile.



Cleft lip and/or palate

Speech & Language Development: Post Surgery

Key Facts

- Common for children born with cleft palate or cleft lip and palate to have speech problems at some point in their lives.
- Over half of these children will require speech and language therapy.
- Most will develop normal speech by the age of 5.

Speech and Language Problems in Children with cleft palate

- Delayed speech sound development
- Speech errors which are directly related to clefting
- Velopharyngeal Dysfunction causing hypernasality despite cleft being repaired.
- Hearing loss which may affect speech.

What can I do as a Parent?

- Review of speech and language development with a speech and language therapist if delayed speech is observed. Early intervention is key.
- Talk to your child and provide language- learning opportunities.
- Work with your child's speech therapist to get home activities that are directly related to your child's therapy plan.

- For further information, do not hesitate to contact Cleft Care Mauritius by sending us a private message.
- We can provide you with information on speech and language therapy services in Mauritius.

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