

# Paediatric History

## Presenting complaint(s)

- Determine symptoms which brought patient in

## History of presenting complaint(s)

- 'Explode' every symptom (including further symptoms you elicit in system reviews)
  - Time-frame
    - When started
    - Acute or gradual onset
    - Duration
    - Progression
    - Intermittent or continuous
  - Symptom-specific questions e.g. SOCRATES for pain (see OSCEstop notes on [exploding symptoms](#))
- Paediatric systems review (similar to normal but a slightly different)
  - General: fever, behaviour, activity/apathy/alertness, rashes, growth and weight
  - Cardiorespiratory: cough, noisy breathing (stridor, croup, wheeze), dyspnoea, cyanosis
  - Gastrointestinal: vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhoea/constipation
  - Genitourinary: wetting/nappies/toilet trained, dysuria, frequency
  - Neuromuscular: seizures/fits, headaches, abnormal movements
  - ENT: sore throat, snoring, noisy breathing, earache

Definitions	
Neonate	<28 days
Infant	1-12 months
Toddler	1-3 years
Pre-schooler	3-5 years
School age	5-12 years
Adolescent	>13 years

## Birth

- Pregnancy – any problems, maternal illness/drug use
- Birth history
  - Place of birth
  - Gestation (37-40 weeks) & birth weight (2.5-4.5kg)
  - Mode of delivery & birth complications e.g. resuscitation required, birth injury, malformations
  - Neonatal problems e.g. jaundice, fits, fevers, bleeding, feeding problems

## Feeding

- Diet and appetite
  - Breast/bottle milk (<12 months) – which? If formula, which one? Home much? (150-200ml/d or breast feed every 2 hours)
  - Weaning (6-12 months) – starts with pureed jars, then mashed up food, then solids gradually added
  - Solid meals and cow's milk (>12 months)
- Toileting
  - Toilet training (2-4 years, dry by day 2 years, dry by night 3-4 years)
  - Frequency – wet nappies? (usually ~5 soaking wet nappies per day and 3 yellow stools)

## Growth

- Weights – 'The Red Book' (personal child health record) – used from birth to 5 years and includes information about everything!
- Puberty if older (starts at 10-11 years in girls, 12-13 years in boys)

## Development

- Any concerns
- School progress & attendance
- Developmental screen if <5years:
  - Smiling by 6 weeks
  - Sitting by 9 months
  - Turns to sounds by 6 months
  - First words by 18 months
  - Walking by 18 months
  - Talking 3 word sentences by 3 years

Normal development				
	Gross motor	Fine motor & vision	Hearing & language	Social
Neonate	Moves all limbs	Looks, startles	Startles to noise	Cries Smiles (6 weeks)
3 months	Head control	Reach for objects Fixes and follows	Cries, laughs, vocalises (4 months)	Laughs
6 months	Sits	Co-ordination Transfers	Localises sound Babbles	Alert and interested Starts solids
9 months	Crawls	Pincer grip	Inappropriate sounds	Stranger anxiety
12 months	Stands Walks at 15m		Babbles Understands simple commands Says mamma/daddda	Socially responsive Wave bye
2 years	Runs Stairs	Circular scribbles and lines	2 word phrases	Uses fork and spoon
3-4 years	Stand on one foot	Builds bridge with bricks	3 word sentences Knows colours	Interactive play
5 years	Skips/hops	Full drawing	Fluent speech	Dresses self

## **Past medical history**

- Medical problems
- Previous illness, accidents, surgery
- Previous hospital/A&E visits

## **Drug history**

- **Immunisations** – up to date?
- Current medication (including crèmes etc) – include dose, route, compliance
- Relevant recent medication e.g. course of steroids for asthma
- Allergies – drug or food or others

## **Family history**

- Anything relevant to HPC
- Anyone else ill?

## **Social history**

- Family unit (parents, siblings, who lives at home) – draw family tree of who's at home
- Anyone smokes in the family? (inside or outside)
- Housing situation
- Social services involvement
- Playgroup (2-5 years), nursery school (3-4 years) or school (5-16 years) – performing well?
- Other e.g. hobbies, travel, pets

## **Ideas, concerns and expectations**

- How has the illness affected the family?
- Have the symptoms kept the child from **attending** nursery/school?
- What are the parents/child's concerns, beliefs, hopes etc

### **Immunisation schedule**

**2 months** DTP/polio/Hib, Rotavirus, Pneumococcal, Men B  
**3 months** DTP/polio/Hib, Rotavirus, Men C  
**4 months** DTP/polio/Hib, Pneumococcal, Men B  
**1 year** Hib/Men C, Pneumococcal, Men B, MMR  
**Preschool** DTP/polio, MMR  
**Girls 12-13 years** HPV  
**Teens** Diphtheria/tetanus/polio, Men ACWY