



HIE Awareness Month 2018

Ensuring No Family Faces HIE Alone.

HOPE for HIE
awareness • education • support

HIE Awareness Month Frequently Asked Questions

HIE happens in 2 to 3 of every 1,000 live births but many have no idea what it is. That's why we are partnering with organizations, worldwide, to designate April as HIE awareness month.

What is HIE?

HIE stands for Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy, or lack of oxygen from restricted blood flow to the brain. It is a type of brain injury.

What causes HIE?

In newborn babies, causes may include placental issues, uterine rupture, cord compression, cord issues such as a true knot, placental abruption, labor that takes too long or is not followed properly. In young children, near SIDS events, near drowning, cardiac arrest and other ways to cause a lack of oxygen cause HIE.

What can HIE cause?

Cerebral palsy, vision impairment, epilepsy, intellectual impairment, and other developmental delays.

How does it impact families?

Most people haven't heard of HIE. Families are thrown into trauma when their newborn baby or young child experiences HIE. Many families have to make significant lifestyle adjustments to care for their child's needs.

Why is an awareness month needed?

Because HIE is rare, most families have a hard time finding connections for support. Many causes of HIE could be preventable with better education and funding for research. We want people to be aware of HIE and what is being done to prevent and treat it. *Last year, we reached over 1 MILLION people in our efforts, which netted in connecting more families to dedicated support.* Help us connect even more this year.