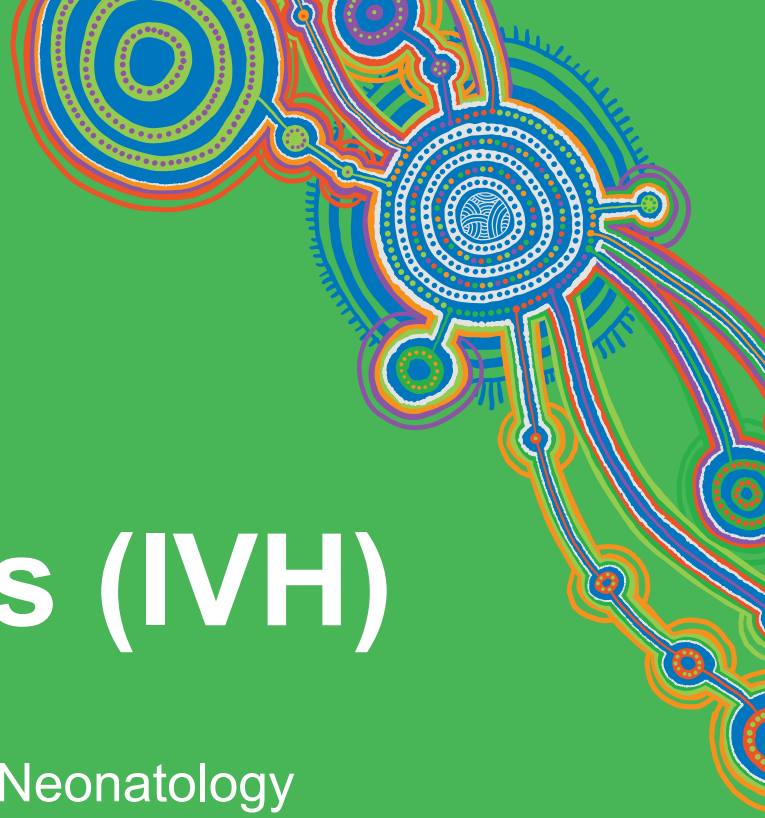




Government of Western Australia
Child and Adolescent Health Service



Neonatology

Brain bleeds (IVH)

Perth Children's Hospital and Neonatology

King Edward Memorial Hospital
and Perth Children's Hospital



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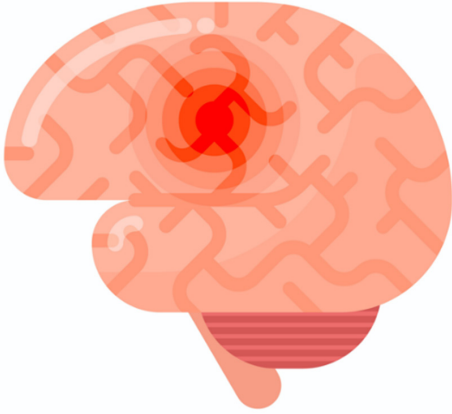
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What is IVH?



IVH stands for **Intraventricular Haemorrhage**, which means there is some **bleeding** inside a baby's **brain**.



All babies have **tiny** blood **vessels** in their **brain**.

Babies born too **early** might have **weaker** vessels that **bleed**.



Bleeding can happen if the baby has **trouble breathing**, is **very small**, if birth was **hard**, or if mum had an **infection**.

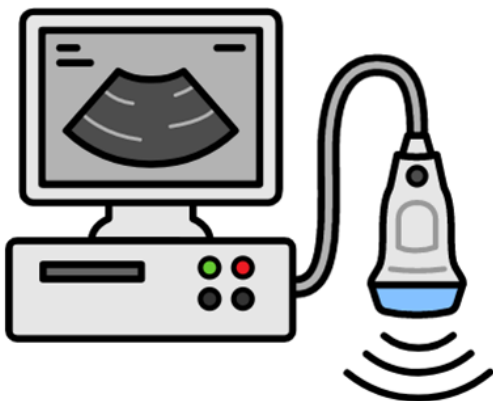
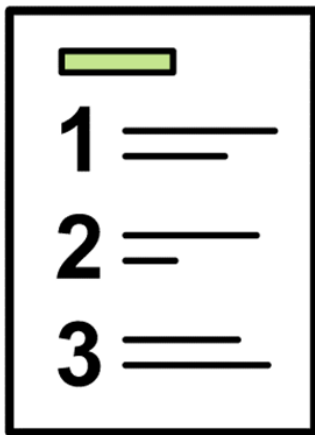
What are the signs?



Babies with **mild bleeding** may seem **fine**.

More **serious bleeding** might cause:

- Stops in **breathing**
- Slow **heartbeat**
- **Seizures** (shaking)
- Being **cranky**
- A **soft spot** on the **head** that sticks out

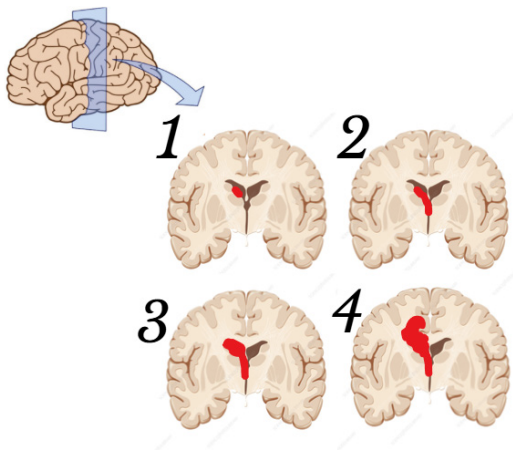


To **find** the **bleed**, **doctors** will check baby's brain with a tool called an **ultrasound**.

How is it treated?

1 - 4

Doctors use **grades** (1 to 4) to show how much **bleeding** there is:



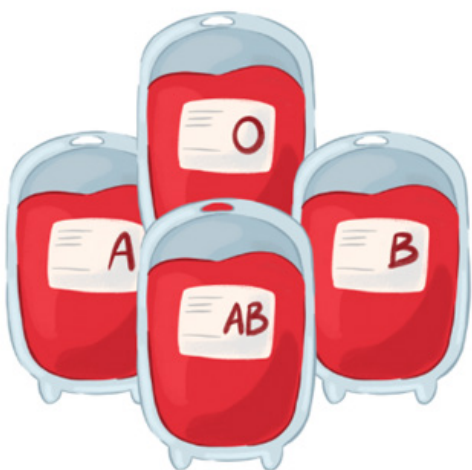
1. A **tiny bit** of **bleeding**
2. A **little more bleeding**
3. A **lot** of **bleeding** but **no harm** to the brain
4. A **lot** of **bleeding** that might **hurt** the **brain**



Babies get a **brain scan** in the **first week** and **again** around **one month**.



There is **no medicine** that can **stop IVH**. But **doctors care** for the **baby** and help in other ways:



- Giving **blood** if the **baby lost** a lot
- If **fluid builds up** in the brain, doctors might need to **take it out** to keep the baby safe



Most babies with **small bleeds** do **well**. **Bigger bleeds** can lead to **issues**, and babies **may** need more **help**.

Key contacts

King Edward Memorial Hospital
Reception - NICU

 6458 2099

King Edward Memorial Hospital
Aboriginal Liaison Service

 6458 2777

King Edward Memorial Hospital
Child Care Centre

 6458 1370

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Perth Children's Hospital
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 6456 3445

Perth Children's Hospital
Aboriginal Liaison Service

 6456 2222

Perth Children's Hospital
Child Care Centre

 6456 0501

Perth Children's Hospital
Aishwarya's Care Call

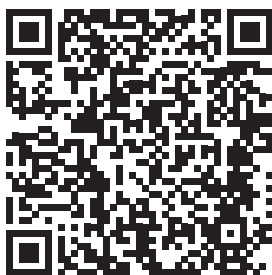
 6456 0337

Derbarl Yerrigan Health
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 9421 3888



Government of **Western Australia**
Child and Adolescent Health Service



For more information **scan the QR code** or visit
cahs.health.wa.gov.au/Neonatology-Resources

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