

# 5. Neuropsychological

## HISTORY

- 1) Document treatment
- 2) Enquire at Long Term Follow Up clinic re school / work performance:
  - Type of school attended
  - Work performance, including employment
  - Learning or memory problems
  - Physical function, especially balance and coordination
  - Plans for the future
  - Social function

## RISK FACTORS

- Relevant for all survivors, but especially
  - CNS tumours
  - ALL treated by CNS radiotherapy or intrathecal chemotherapy
  - BMT recipients (especially those receiving TBI at an early age)
  - Young age at treatment

## ADVISE ON:

- 1) Careers guidance
- 2) Opportunities on leaving school
- 3) Remedial education

## PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Indicated when:

- 1) Parents / school express concern about child's progress, and especially when
- 2) Questions / concerns raised about transfer to special school or from primary to high school.

Assessment will include:

- Intellect and achievement
- Personal social adjustment
- Function specific tests

## INTERVENTION

- 1) Discuss and hand out "After Cure"
- 2) Discuss and hand out "Children with a brain tumour in the classroom"

## REFERENCES

- Reviews**
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  - 2) Mulhern RK, Armstrong FD, Thompson SJ. Function-specific neuropsychological assessment. *Med Pediatr Oncol* 1998; **30 Suppl 1**: 34-40.
- Specific**
- 1) Anderson V, Smibert E, Ekert H, Godber T. Intellectual, educational and behavioural sequelae after cranial irradiation and chemotherapy. *Arch Dis Child* 1994; **70**: 476-483.
  - 2) Haupt R, Fears TR, Robson LL, *et al*. Educational attainment in long term survivors of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia. *JAMA* 1994; **272**: 1427-1432.
  - 3) Carlson-Green B, Morris RD, Krawiecki N. Family and illness predictors of outcome in pediatric brain tumors. *J Pediatr Psychol* 1995; **20**: 769-784.
  - 4) Christie D, Leiper AD, Chessells JM, Vargha-Khadem F. Intellectual performance after presymptomatic cranial radiotherapy for leukaemia: effects of age and sex. *Arch Dis Child* 1995; **73**: 136-140.