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Australian Scientists Release Findings on Prevention of Brain Injury in Infants

Fitri Syarifah
Jul 07, 2022, 13:00 WIB

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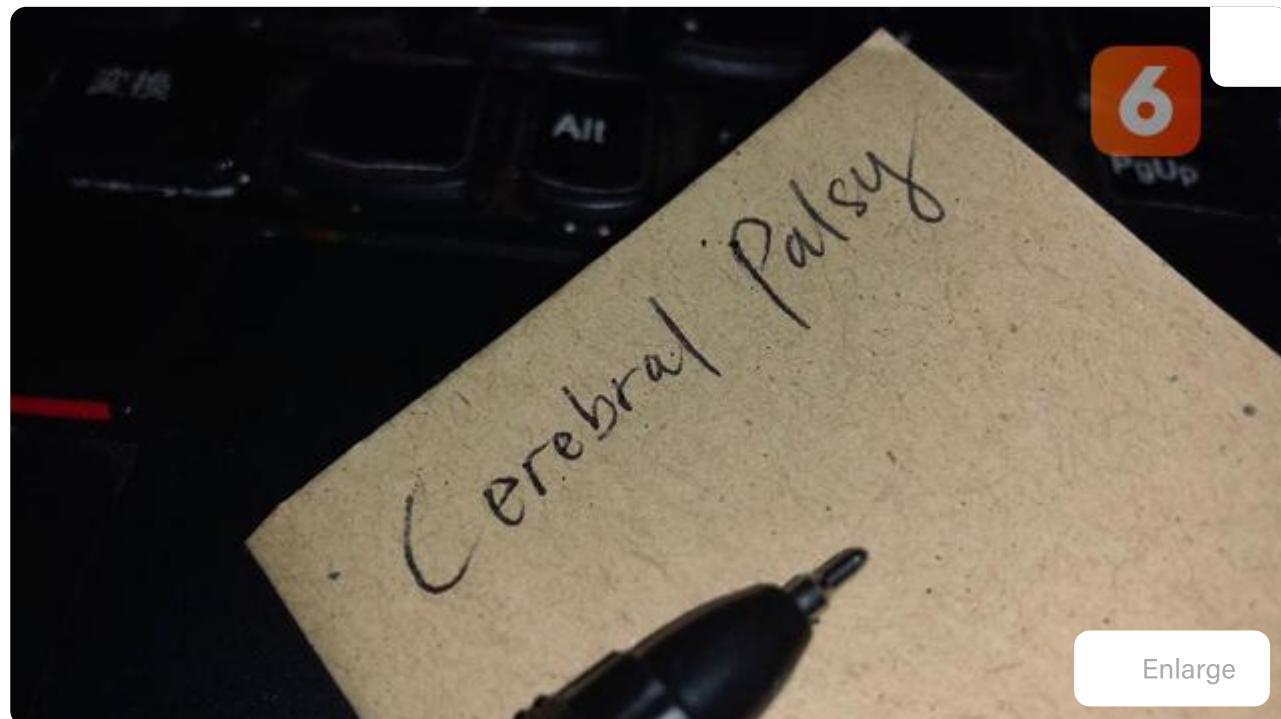


Illustration of cerebral palsy. (Photo: Ade Nasihudin/Liputan6.com).

Liputan6.com, Jakarta Australian neonatal scientists have released findings from several projects that they believe will provide valuable insights into the causes and treatments of brain injuries particularly **cerebral palsy in infants**.

Reporting from *Cn News*, Suzanne Miller of the Hudson Institute of Medical Research said her team is determined to prevent cerebral palsy, which is caused by damage to the baby's brain during pregnancy or around the time of birth.

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"The term cerebral palsy describes impairment to movement, but it is important to remember that brain injury before or immediately after birth is also a leading cause of more subtle cognitive dysfunction, learning dysfunction as well as behavioral dysfunction," Miller said in a statement released on Tuesday.

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believe that the incidence and severity of cerebral palsy can be reduced," she said.

Miller said the study included a report he published in the Journal of Pineal Research last year that revealed that melatonin could protect newborns' brains from lack of oxygen.

"Melatonin has powerful antioxidant properties to fight damaging free radicals," Miller said.

"This important study suggests that melatonin significantly improves newborn brain protection and lays the groundwork for a treatment that has strong implications for reducing neonatal mortality and disability."



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Nerve stem cells

Then on further research by PhD student Madeleine Smith, the definitive answer about the effectiveness of nerve stem cells (NSCs) for treating neonatal brain injuries, was reviewed in an article published in Stem Cells Translational Medicine.

"Unlike other types of stem cells, NSCs can integrate into damaged brain tissue, replacing dead neurons. The team analyzed all available lab-based pre-clinical studies and found that NSC can reduce brain injury and improve physical function after an injury occurs," Miller said.

Another recent initiative, carried out by Tayla Penny and Courtney McDonald and published in Scientific Reports, suggests that cord blood therapy can be just as effective in treating brain injuries in men or women, despite differences in their brains.

"There is a huge team effort at the Hudson Institute to ensure that as many babies as possible get a healthy start to life, with every opportunity to realize their full potential," Miller said.

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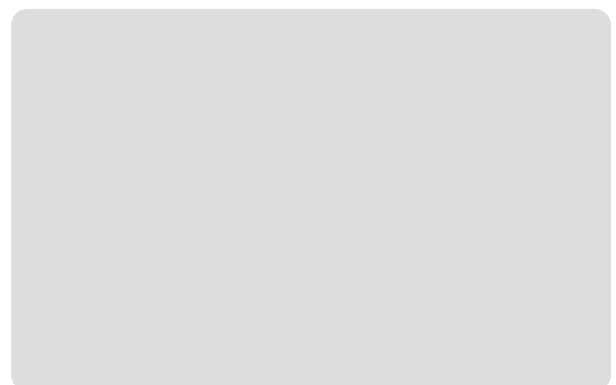
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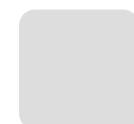
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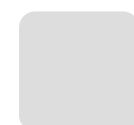
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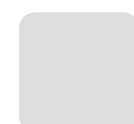
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