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Dear Friends,

I am very excited to write to you about a collaborative effort which I feel delivers coordinated and comprehensive care to one of the most complex groups of patients in the community; children with neuromuscular disorders. The initiative is called the Raleigh Comprehensive Pediatric Neuromuscular Clinic (RCPNC) and brings orthopaedics, occupational therapy, physical therapy, orthotics and pedorthics, and mobility and assistive technology specialists into one setting for the review of each child.

The clinics started on December 3d of 2014 and are scheduled each month on the first Wednesday. Every child in attendance has a full therapy evaluation and orthopaedic examination. The specialists then meet as a team to assess the child's current resources and to make recommendations about ongoing care and any equipment or therapeutic adjustments that may be necessary. The team setting allows important give-and-take and immediate feedback to provide expeditious and personalized decision making. This model is based on multispecialty clinics for other clinical disorders in other communities, but it is the only one of its kind in the Triangle devoted especially to children with neuromuscular disorders like cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spinal muscular atrophy, spina bifida, or other developmental problems.

Our staff is made up of recognized expert specialists with practices in the community. Our orthotist, Tommy Foster, Jr. BOCO/L, C.Ped is the clinical director of orthotics at SME Clinic. Hand and occupational therapy will be handled by Sue Powell OTR/L and physical therapy assessments will be made by Monica Cook PT, both of Kid Sense Therapy. Assistive and mobility equipment assessments will be managed by Ken Muzzillo ATP of OSC in Raleigh. I am a pediatric orthopaedist with twenty years' experience in treating pediatric neuromuscular patients.

We look forward to assisting your children or your patients and clients. For more information or to inquire about scheduling, please contact Judy or Carmel at (919) 977-0427.

Yours truly,

Keith P. Mankin, MD FAAP