

# Introduction to Updated Guideline on Treatment and Management of Craniosynostosis

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*“Learn from the mistakes of others. You can’t live long enough to make them all yourself.”—E. Roosevelt*

New tools for diagnostics or adaptations in surgical techniques for treating patients with craniosynostosis are continuously reported in literature. Best treatment of craniosynostosis involves a multidisciplinary craniofacial team and especially integration of the care that each individual care giver can deliver. The patient’s and/or parent’s voice in decision making is as important. Therefore, the guideline on craniosynostosis published in this journal in 2015 needed an update. This revised guideline aims to provide healthcare professionals, and patients, and their parents/caregivers with an evidence-based overview of the optimal multidisciplinary care for craniosynostosis. It also seeks to provide recommendations for the improvement of health outcomes and the organisation of care.

The development of this guideline is an initiative from the Dutch Society for Plastic Surgery, with the support of representatives from 21 scientific societies. Important new features of the guideline are prenatal detection of craniosynostosis and speech-language development. With the financial support from the European Reference Network on Rare Craniofacial Malformations and Ear-Nose-Throat Disorder (ERN CRANIO), the translation and publication of the guideline were made possible. One of the goals of the networks is to share knowledge on rare diseases. There is no better way for sharing than through open access publications.

This guideline is primarily written for all healthcare professionals involved in the care of patients with craniosynostosis, including paediatricians, obstetricians, prenatal doctors, plastic surgeons, maxillofacial surgeons, orthodontists, otorhinolaryngologists, neurosurgeons, orthopaedic surgeons, ophthalmologists, anaesthesiologists, geneticists, psychologists, and speech and language therapists. The guideline will also provide patients and parents/caregivers with information on the recommended care for patients with craniosynostosis across multiple disciplines.

Additional information regarding the European Reference Network CRANIO can be found on [www.ern-cranio.eu](http://www.ern-cranio.eu).

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The author reports no conflicts of interest.

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