RECRUITING INFANTS AND TODDLERS WHO HAVE HAD A STROKE

Who is eligible?
Your infant or toddler may be eligible if he or she:

- Had a stroke very early in life
- Shows motor weakness or poor control of movements on one side of the body (often diagnosed as hemiparesis)
- Will be between 8 and 36 months old when treatment is received

Program staff can speak with you to review all eligibility requirements in detail.

What therapy is being offered?
I-ACQUIRE a form of infant and toddler rehabilitation, is being evaluated (in 2 amounts) compared to typical treatments for infants and toddlers with hemiparesis, such as one hour weekly each of occupational therapy and physical therapy. Both forms of I-ACQUIRE involve therapy 5 days a week for 4 weeks in a row, provided by a therapist trained in I-ACQUIRE – the name of this form of constraint-induced movement therapy (CIMT).

Therapy Groups
Participants will be in 1 of 3 groups:
Group 1: I-ACQUIRE 6 hours daily, 5 days per week for 4 weeks.
Group 2: I-ACQUIRE 3 hours daily, 5 days per week for 4 weeks.
Group 3: Continue current therapy. (6 months later participants in this group will have the choice to receive I-ACQUIRE therapy (with the amount of 3 or 6 hours per day assigned by the study).

*Families will sign an agreement when they enroll to accept the therapy group assigned and attend all 3 required assessments.
I-ACQUIRE therapy involves:

- A cast for your child’s more frequently used arm and hand.
- Your child wearing the cast for 3 ½ weeks while receiving I-ACQUIRE therapy.
- For the last 3 days of therapy, the cast will be removed and the focus will be on bimanual therapy.
- Parents participating in 1 therapy session each week and completing a daily home practice program for about 45 minutes each day.

The cast is judged to be clinically safe, although it is removed once a week to check that everything is okay.

Where is therapy provided?
Therapy is provided at 12 different locations across the United States. Whenever possible, therapy is provided in your home, a homelike setting (for families who need to relocate for the month of therapy), or a child-care center or early intervention program that your child attends.

Is there a cost for therapy?
Therapy is provided at no cost to all participating families. However, if traveling for therapy, you will need to pay for housing arrangements and travel to all 3 assessments. More information regarding housing options and scheduling assessments will be made available upon enrollment.