

# TreatPaCS

## Information brochure for parents

You contacted a speech therapist because your child stutters.

This important step will help you and your child to find answers to the many questions you undoubtedly have and to help your child with speech.

We now know that it is very important for children who stutter to get help before the age of 6. Equally important is good cooperation with the parents.

In Belgium, mainly three stuttering treatments are provided - which have the same endresult. Moreover, your speech therapist is trained in each of these treatments.

Based on experience, we know that all three treatments work equally well, but we have no scientific proof of this. In order to demonstrate the results scientifically as well, a large research project has been started and the Belgian government (KCE: Kennis-Centrum/Centre d'Expertise) has made funds available for this purpose.

Your speech therapist participates in this research.

We thank you for your cooperation as a child and parent.

### **TreatPACS**

This stands for 'Treatment of Preschool age Children who Stutter'. It is an important, long-term study on a large scale, according to both Belgian and international standards.

Your child will receive one of the three treatments to be investigated. However, in order to guarantee the neutrality of the study, we will not know in advance which treatment your child will receive. Once your speech therapist knows in what way your child will be treated, you will receive a detailed explanation of the specific approach and what can be expected.

### **Privacy and security**

TreatPaCS requires us to collect and keep track of information. Information you give us and that the speech therapist collects about your child's stuttering and about treatment will be stored and registered in such a way that you and your child remain pseudonymised: all information is coded and only your speech therapist knows which child, parent and therapy it concerns.

The therapeutic safety of your child in this study is guaranteed because the treatment is the same as your child would receive in regular practice.

KCE is providing the financial resources to carry out this study. Thomas More Mechelen-Antwerp organises the study in collaboration with Artevelde Hogeschool and University of Liège. The Clinical Trial Centre of Antwerp University Hospital is responsible for data management and statistical analyses.

### **Course of the study**

Your child receives the therapy like all other children outside this study.

In addition, we will ask you 8 times to make a video at home and to fill in some short questionnaires. This will be asked over a period of 2 years and once after 5 years to see what the results are in the longer term. This is separate from your child's treatment.

For each of the first 7 times we will thank you with a voucher of 20 euro.

A team of therapists, experts and, above all, parents who have themselves undergone stutter therapy with their child, gave us advice on the feasibility of this.

### **Your speech therapist**

We will support and assist your speech therapist as much as possible through consultation and intervision. Your speech therapist can call on an expert for each of the three treatments at any time.

You can read all about it in the document 'informed consent' in which you indicate to participate in the study by signing it.

Thank you very much.