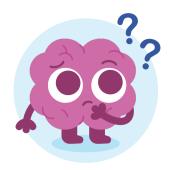
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Chiari Malformation Type I



What is Chiari malformation type I?

- A lot of kids have Chiari malformation.
- It's something some kids are born with, but you might not even know you have it!
- You may feel things other kids don't, like pain at the back of your head.
 Or you may feel nothing at all.



How does it happen?

Chiari malformation happens when there isn't enough room for the back part of the brain to fit into the skull. When this happens, it can push the brain down into the spine.



Do I need tests or surgery?

- You may need an MRI, which is when we take a detailed picture of your brain.
- You lie down in a big machine while it takes your picture.
- It may be loud, but it's safe and won't last too long.
- Some kids need surgery. If you do, the most common surgery is an operation to create more space for the back of the brain.



What happens now?

- If you feel anything new in your body that hurts or doesn't feel normal for you, tell a parent or doctor.
- Keep a healthy lifestyle! This means eating healthy foods, drinking lots of water, staying active, getting the right amount of sleep and lowering stress.

This family education sheet is available in Spanish.