

HAVE YOU BEEN DECLINED ACC MEDICAL MISADVENTURE FOR YOUR CHILD?????

If your child suffers a disability relating to your obstetric care and you have previously applied for and been declined ACC, I would like to hear from you.

My son suffers from Cerebral Palsy as a result of prolonged and severe birth asphyxia. Although I was eventually successful in obtaining ACC Medical Misadventure for him, my claim was initially declined in spite of overwhelming medical evidence to support my case. Through the early intervention system here in Christchurch I have recently met a number of other parents, all of whom have been unsuccessful with their ACC claims. These parents are struggling to come to terms with their child's disability, and the battle to fight ACC for their child's rights is often made too difficult due to the complex and prolonged nature of the claims process. Many therefore give up, due to stress and frustration.

Recently I set up a meeting for these parents to meet and share their issues with each other, in the presence of our local MP, Tim Barnett. We found that all of the issues raised were shared by most if not all of the parents present. Tim has now offered to arrange a further meeting for us involving the ACC Minister, Ruth Dyson, to provide us with an opportunity to address our issues at a higher level.

If you are interested in becoming involved in any way, whether it be just to share your story or attend this meeting, please contact Janette Young on phone 03 355 0206 or email b.j.young@xtra.co.nz

