What is Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy?

HIE occurs when babies are deprived of oxygen during the labor and delivery process. This lack of oxygen (also known as anoxia or hypoxia) and subsequent cell death can result in mental and physical damage.

Traditional treatment of HIE entailed a hospital using conventional measures such as ventilation, physician support, NICU care and from specialty physicians in an attempt to allow the baby’s body and brain to repair itself.

Mortality rate in severe HIE cases is about 25-50%.

The root causes of HIE

- Nuchal cord (the cord gets wrapped around the baby’s neck)
- Prolapsed cord (the umbilical cord prevents the fetus’ exit from the uterus, and the cord becomes compressed and unable to deliver oxygen to the baby)
- Umbilical compression due to hyperstimulation (excessive uterine activity)
- Placenta previa (placenta is attached to the uterine wall close to or covering the cervix)
- Umbilical cord injuries
- Ruptured uterus
- Placental insufficiency
- UMBILICAL CORD INJURIES
- Tachysystole (excessively frequent uterine contractions)
- Elevated Fetal Heart Resting Tone In Between Contractions
- Trauma to the baby’s brain during delivery
- Delayed delivery of the baby
- PROBLEMS WITH THE PLACENTA OR UTERUS
- Cerebral palsy
- Intellectual impairments
- Epilepsy
- Blindness
- Hearing loss
- Developmental and learning disabilities

What are the long-term outcomes of HIE?

- Up to 90% of infants that develop serious complications, like cerebral palsy
- 10-20% have moderate to severe behavioral or developmental issues
- While about 10-20% develop minor neurological issues
- Mortality rate in severe cases is about 25-50%.

How has HIE been treated previously?

Traditional treatment of HIE entails a hospital using conventional measures such as ventilation, physician support, NICU care and care from specialty physicians in an attempt to allow the baby’s body and brain to repair itself.

What kind of problems does HIE cause?

- Intellectual impairments
- Developmental and learning disabilities
- Epilepsy
- Blindness
- Hearing loss

Talk To Our Trusted Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy Lawyers For Legal Help at 1-800-300-BILA (2452)