Clinical Assessment of Infant Head Shapes

Referrals for orthotic evaluation are recommended for deformational plagiocephaly Types III-V, and for deformational brachycephaly Types II-III.

Deformational Plagiocephaly (DP) — Primary deformity is asymmetry.

TYPE V - Very Severe **TYPE III – Moderate** TYPE I - Normal TYPE II - Mild TYPE IV - Severe **CLINICAL FEATURES CLINICAL FEATURES CLINICAL FEATURES CLINICAL FEATURES CLINICAL FEATURES** · Minimal posterior flattening Posterior flattening Posterior flattening · Posterior flattening · Posterior flattening · Minimal ear shift Ear shift Ear shift Ear shift Forehead asymmetry Forehead asymmetry Forehead asymmetry · Orbital, cheek, face or · Orbital, cheek, face or jaw deformity jaw deformity · Frontal and /or parietal sloping • Frontal and/or parietal sloping · Temporal bossing and increased cranial vault height **CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS** CLINICAL RECOMMENDATIONS Repositioning & tummy time Refer for orthotic evaluation Refer for orthotic evaluation Monitor for improvement / Monitor for improvement / Refer for orthotic evaluation progression progression

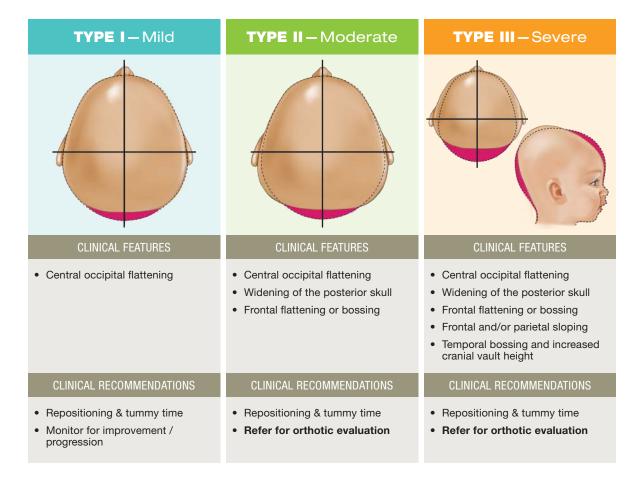
The classification scale shown here is adapted from Argenta¹ and provides a qualitative approach to the identification of infant skull deformities. Mild deformities should be monitored in very young infants (under four months of age) to ensure the deformity does not progress towards greater levels of severity. Moderate and severe cranial deformities should be referred for further orthotic evaluation and/or treatment. All infants with identified neck muscle asymmetry, weakness or tightness should be referred for therapeutic evaluation and/or treatment.



Clinical Assessment of Infant Head Shapes

Referrals for orthotic evaluation are recommended for deformational plagiocephaly Types III-V, and for deformational brachycephaly Types II-III.

Deformational Brachycephaly (DB) – Primary deformity is disproportion.



The classification scale shown here is adapted from Argenta¹ and provides a qualitative approach to the identification of infant skull deformities. Mild deformities should be monitored in very young infants (under four months of age) to ensure the deformity does not progress towards greater levels of severity. Moderate and severe cranial deformities should be referred for further orthotic evaluation and/or treatment. All infants with identified neck muscle asymmetry, weakness or tightness should be referred for therapeutic evaluation and/or treatment.

