

## About Deformational Plagiocephaly

Deformational plagiocephaly is a condition in which a baby's head has an uneven or irregular shape. It often occurs prior to birth as a result of pressure inside the uterus, but it also can happen after birth.

The condition might occur before birth if:

- The baby dropped early into the mother's pelvis before delivery.
- The baby was breech.
- There were twins or multiple births.
- The baby was unusually large.
- The mother had decreased amniotic fluid or has a small pelvis.

After birth, the condition is generally caused by babies lying frequently in the same position, such as always sleeping on their backs.

## Our Mission

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare provides specialized health care for people who have short-term or long-term disabilities that began during childhood. We help children, adults and their families improve their health, achieve greater well-being and enjoy life.



St. Paul (Main) Campus  
200 University Ave. E.  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
651-291-2848  
800-719-4040 (toll-free)

Brainerd Lakes Clinic  
15860 Audubon Way  
Baxter, MN 56401  
218-824-5001  
800-578-4266 (toll-free)

Burnsville Clinic  
305 E. Nicollet Blvd.  
Burnsville, MN 55337  
952-223-3400  
866-881-7386 (toll-free)

Duluth Clinic  
Lakewalk Center  
1420 London Rd.  
Duluth, MN 55805  
218-728-6160  
800-903-7111 (toll-free)

Maple Grove Clinic  
9550 Upland Ln. N.  
Maple Grove, MN 55369  
763-496-6000  
888-218-0642 (toll-free)

Minnetonka Clinic  
6060 Clearwater Dr.  
Minnetonka, MN 55343  
952-936-0977  
800-277-1250 (toll-free)

Willmar Clinic  
Lakeland Health Center  
502 2nd St. S.W.  
Willmar, MN 56201  
651-634-1938  
800-578-4266 (toll-free)

Mobile Outreach Clinic  
For locations and schedules:  
651-634-1938  
800-578-4266 (toll-free)  
[www.gillettechildrens.org](http://www.gillettechildrens.org)



St. Paul – Phalen Clinic  
435 Phalen Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55130  
651-636-9443  
800-578-4266 (toll-free)

[www.gillettechildrens.org](http://www.gillettechildrens.org)

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## Gillette CranioCap® Orthosis

A Cranial Orthosis  
Custom-made for Your Baby



*A certified orthotist molds each Gillette CranioCap® orthosis to provide a customized fit. The optimal time to begin using the orthosis is when children are 4 to 8 months old.*

## Correcting Deformational Plagiocephaly

A large portion of the brain's growth occurs during the first 13 months of life. If an infant has mild deformational plagiocephaly, it usually corrects itself.

If not, infants can begin wearing a cranial orthosis such as the Gillette CranioCap® orthosis, a custom-made brace for the skull. The optimal time to begin wearing the cranial orthosis is when an infant is 4 to 8 months old. We can, however, initiate a Gillette CranioCap® orthosis on children up to 12 months of age. After that, using an orthosis is less effective and less likely to correct the shape of a baby's head.

## How a Cranial Orthosis Works

Gillette custom-makes each orthosis. We begin by using new laser technology to scan the head. Then we form a model and use it to create a lightweight orthosis. Each Gillette CranioCap® orthosis has a snug fit in some areas and is open in others. As your baby's brain grows, the skull is slowly molded into the open areas of the orthosis, rounding the head over time. It generally takes three to four months for this process to occur.

## Necessary Appointments

First, your child needs an evaluation at our St. Paul, Burnsville, Maple Grove or Minnetonka locations. You'll meet with a craniofacial specialist, who will examine your child and give you a prescription for a Gillette CranioCap® orthosis if needed.

Once you have a prescription, your child will see an orthotist for a scan, a custom fitting and all follow-up care. Generally, the series includes follow-up appointments every two weeks until use of the orthosis is discontinued. Those appointments can take place at our St. Paul, Burnsville, Maple Grove or Minnetonka locations.

*The Gillette CranioCap® orthosis has been approved as a Class 2 medical device by the Food and Drug Administration.*

## Medical Insurance

In most cases, insurance companies will cover the cost of a cranial orthosis, according to the terms of your policy. Some insurance companies, however, might consider the correction of deformational plagiocephaly to be cosmetic rather than a medical necessity. We encourage you to check with your insurance carrier regarding coverage.

If you have difficulty obtaining coverage for a Gillette CranioCap® orthosis or meeting obligations for co-payments, Gillette has financing options available. For more information, please contact Patient Accounting at 651-325-2177 or 800-719-4040 (toll-free).

## Information and Referrals

To refer a patient or schedule an appointment, use our One-Call Access Line.



### For physicians making referrals

651-325-2200 or 855-325-2200 (toll-free)

### For patients making appointments

651-290-8707 or 800-719-4040 (toll-free)