

**Office for Genetics
and
Children with Special Health Care Needs**

Reduction Deformity: Lower Limbs

What Is Reduction Deformity: Lower Limb?

- It is the absence of a limb or part of a limb or a shortened limb

Signs and Symptoms

- Missing limbs – this could be complete or partial absence of the upper leg (femur), lower leg (tibia and/or fibula), ankle (tarsal's), foot, (metatarsals) or toes (phalanges)
- Shortened limbs

Associated Conditions

- There are other associated conditions which occur in approximately 30-40% of the children born with Lower Limb Reduction Deformity. Some of the associated conditions are:
 1. Congenital Heart Disease
 2. Eye Malformations
 3. Kidney Malformations
 4. Intestinal Atresia (intestine does not form completely)
 5. Birthmarks
 6. Ear Malformations

What is the cause?

- The cause is often not known, but possible causes include interrupted blood supply during development, “bands” in the amniotic fluid, genetic syndromes, or drugs such as thalidomide
- Recent research has shown that women who get 0.4mg of folic acid per day before they become pregnant and in early pregnancy may have a lower risk of having an infant born with a Lower Limb Reduction Deformity

Is there any treatment?

- Treatment varies pending the medical issue and associated conditions. However, surgery and prostheses may be needed along with physical therapy

Support Groups/Resources

- Helping Hands Foundation
www.helpinghandsgroup.org/support_groups.
- Kennedy Krieger Institute
<http://www.kennedykrieger.org>
443-923-9200
- March of Dimes
www.marchofdimes.com
1-410-546-2241
- Office for Genetics and Children with Special Health Care Needs
<http://fha.maryland.gov/genetics/bdris.cfm>
1-800-638-8864
- The Parents' Place Of Maryland
www.ppm.org
410- 768-9100