


# MENTAL RETARDATION


- ▶ Intellectual disability, also known as general learning disability and mental retardation is a generalized neurodevelopment disorder characterized by significantly impaired intellectual and adaptive functioning.
- 

- ▶ Mental retardation is defined as significantly sub average general intellectual functioning and impairment in cognitive and adaptive functioning.

# CAUSES

- ▶ **Prenatal/antenatal causes-** infection- syphilis, meningitis, rubella.
- ▶ **Physical damage** – injury, hypoxia
- ▶ **Intoxications-** lead poisoning, certain drugs
- ▶ **Placenta dysfunction-** toxemia, nutritional growth retardation.

## **Prenatal causes-** birth asphyxia

- ▶ Prolonged birth
  - ▶ Difficult birth
  - ▶ Obstructed labour
  - ▶ Premature birth
  - ▶ Birth injury
  - ▶ Instrumental delivery
- 


## Postnatal causes – injury

- ▶ Accident
- ▶ Child abuse
- ▶ Infection e.g. encephalitis, meningitis
- ▶ malnutrition

### CAUSES OF MENTAL RETARDATION

Infections (present at birth or occurring after birth)

- Congenital CMV
- Congenital rubella
- Congenital toxoplasmosis
- Encephalitis
- HIV infection
- Meningitis

- ▶ Genetic causes
  - ▶ Social-cultural causes- deprivation of socio-cultural stimulation
  - ▶ Isolation
- 




# TYPES OF MENTAL RETARDATION

- ▶ MILD – I.Q.= 50-70
- ▶ MODERATE- I.Q. 30-50
- ▶ SEVERE- less than 30
- ▶ PROFOUND – Less than 15

## Classification of Mental Retardation



# PROBLEMS DE TO MENTAL RETARDATION


- ▶ Personal
  - ▶ Social
  - ▶ Educational
  - ▶ Sexual and marital
- 




# PREVENTION OF MENTAL RETARDATION


## Primary prevention–

- ▶ Good antenatal, intranatal and postnatal care
- ▶ Improve the socio-economic status of the community.
- ▶ Education of the public.
- ▶ Genetic counseling to at risk patients.
- ▶ Syphilis and AIDS screening.


- ▶ Vaccination of girls with rubella vaccine.
  - ▶ Avoiding consanguinal marriage.
  - ▶ Prevention measures to reduce child abuse, road traffic accident and home accidents.
- 

## **Secondary prevention-**

- ▶ Early detection and treatment of preventable disorders.
  - ▶ Amniocentesis and medical termination of pregnancy .
  - ▶ Early detection of correctable disorders.
  - ▶ Prevention of further damage of impaired children.
- 

- ▶ **Tertiary prevention-** treatment of physical and psychological problems by drugs , by behavior modification.
  - ▶ Hospitalization and custodial care of severe mentally retarded or those with psychological problems.
  - ▶ Education and training of mentally retarded to avoid handicaps.
  - ▶ Make plans according to the problems and capacity of mentally retarded child.
- 

# REHABILITATION AND NURSING CARE

- ▶ Assessment of the needs
  - ▶ Education
  - ▶ Training
  - ▶ Custodial care
- 

THANKS