

CASE STUDY: FRAGILE X SYNDROME

Fragile X syndrome is the most common inherited cause of intellectual disabilities and is due to an abnormality of a gene on the X chromosome. Children with Fragile X syndrome exhibit developmental delays and mild to profound intellectual disabilities. In addition, the condition is associated with a variety of behavioral challenges. Poor eye contact, hand flapping, and lack of awareness of social cues are commonly present and may be referred to as PDD (pervasive developmental disorder) or autistic behaviors. These characteristics and associated attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder often require behavioral interventions, calming techniques, and medication to help children cope with the demands of home and school. Children with Fragile X syndrome may display aggressive behavior with violent temper outbursts, a short attention span, and hyperactivity. These behaviors may lead to resistance or refusal to use restraint systems consistently.

Parents (usually mothers) who are affected may have less severe manifestations than their children, but their coping abilities may be limited. These individuals may benefit from repetition structured, clear, and simplified instructions.

Please address the following questions when discussing your case study:

- What are some characteristics that a child with this condition may have and how can they affect how the child is transported?
- What are some general guidelines to consider when transporting a child with this condition? (You do not have to give specific restraint names, only general categories)