



**McMaster
Children's Hospital**

The 2G Spasticity Clinic introduces: **BEad STRONG**



A fun, new program to help children tell their story.

What is BEad STRONG?

We invite you and your child to take part in “BEad STRONG”. In this program, your child collects beads to create a unique necklace that tells the story of their treatment at McMaster Children’s Hospital.

If you would like your child to take part, we will give your child a starter kit. This has a strong cotton string and beads that spell your child’s first name.

At each step in your child’s care, we will give your child different beads to add to their necklace.



Each bead represents a part of your child’s treatment. The necklace becomes a treasured keepsake and a reminder of your child’s journey.

What are the benefits?

BEad STRONG helps your child:

- ✓ Understand that their treatment is a journey.
 - ✓ Remember what they have been through.
 - ✓ Stay positive and recognize their strengths.
 - ✓ Talk about their treatment. Beads help them tell their story to family, friends and classmates.
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BEad STRONG helps you and your family:

- ✓ Understand the treatment and procedures that are part of your child’s care.
- ✓ Recognize your child’s strengths and successes.
- ✓ Talk about your child’s treatment. Beads ease the stress of explaining your child’s progress.
- ✓ Reflect upon what your child and family has gone through, yet stay positive.

What are beads for?

Your child will get a bead for birthdays and each part of their care.

Type of bead	Type of care
Wooden bead	Spasticity clinic visit
Multi-coloured round wooden beads	Botulinum needle
Silver sparkle bead	Iliopsoas muscle needle
Purple sparkle bead	Phenol needle
Peace bead	Needle under sedation
Sneaker bead	Motion Lab visit, Gait assessment
Yellow star round bead	Serial casting
Blue star round bead	Tests such as MRI, X-ray, blood test
Rainbow bead	Surgery
Cartoon face bead	Constraint therapy
Smiling face square bead	Child Life visit
Footprint bead	Physiotherapy (given once)
Pencil bead	Occupational therapy (given once)
Computer bead	Taking part in a research study
Blue and red sparkle bead	Other successes and special events

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We started the program to help children understand their treatment, recognize their strengths and celebrate other successes.

We hope the necklaces help them tell their story to others.

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Spasticity Clinic Team



Questions?

The Spasticity Clinic Team welcomes all your questions, suggestions and feedback.

Safety notice

Beads can be a choking hazard for children. If there are concerns, a parent or other adult should handle the beads and wear their child's necklace.

Our thanks

We are grateful to Allergan Canada for their financial support for the BEad STRONG program.