

CONGRESSMAN MIKE LEVIN JOINS CONGRESSIONAL HYDROCEPHALUS CAUCUS

Caucus helps families impacted by a brain condition that has no cure.

WASHINGTON, DC, UNITED STATES, October 20, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49) has joined the bipartisan [Congressional Pediatric and Adult Hydrocephalus Caucus](#). The

[Hydrocephalus](#) Association applauds Rep. Levin's support of children and adults living with hydrocephalus, a chronic neurological condition that affects over 1 million Americans.

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Rep. Mike Levin

“I'm proud to join the caucus, which will help find solutions for individuals and families impacted by hydrocephalus,” said Rep. Levin. “The only treatment for hydrocephalus is brain surgery, and clearly more research is needed to identify new treatment options and a cure. I look forward

to working with my colleagues to advance policy that will facilitate breakthroughs for people living with hydrocephalus in California's 49th District and across the nation.”□

The Congressional Pediatric and Adult Hydrocephalus Caucus serves to inform the congressional community about the needs of those living with hydrocephalus, their families and caregivers. The caucus has been instrumental in helping the hydrocephalus community advocate for substantive changes for patients, opening doors to new research opportunities that could result in alternative treatment options, forms of prevention, and a cure.

“We are grateful to Congressman Levin for joining the Congressional Hydrocephalus Caucus and helping us advance research and legislation that will improve the lives of people living with this condition,” said Diana Gray, President and CEO of the [Hydrocephalus Association](#). “His action reflects a welcome commitment to working with members of Congress to find practical, bipartisan solutions.”

Each year, one in every 770 babies develops hydrocephalus, a complex, life-threatening condition marked by excess accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid on the brain. However, anyone at any time can develop hydrocephalus from a brain injury, tumor, or infection, and some people over 60 develop Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus, which is often misdiagnosed as Alzheimer's,

dementia or Parkinson's. Some two-thirds of our current and former military service members suffering from moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries are at risk of developing hydrocephalus.

The primary treatment for hydrocephalus is the surgical insertion of a device called a shunt – a small tube and a connected valve – into the brain to drain the excess cerebrospinal fluid to another part of the body. Shunts save lives, but frequently malfunction, become infected, or blocked. It is not uncommon for a person with hydrocephalus to have ten or more shunt-related brain surgeries throughout their lifetime, and some individuals will undergo more than 100 surgical procedures. Each surgery brings with it the risk of unknown long-term cognitive and health effects, and hydrocephalus can be fatal.



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About the Hydrocephalus Association

Founded in 1983 by the parents of children with hydrocephalus, the Hydrocephalus Association (HA) is the nation's largest and most widely respected organization dedicated to hydrocephalus. Since 2009, HA has invested nearly \$12 million in cutting-edge research, making it the largest non-profit, non-governmental funder of hydrocephalus research in the United States. The Hydrocephalus Association's mission is to find a cure for hydrocephalus and improve the lives of those impacted by the condition.

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