

Developmental Clinic with Integrated Early Intervention Center

What is the Developmental Clinic (RA)?

The Developmental Clinic (RA) is dedicated to the treatment of preschool children with risk factors (for example, low birth weight) and children with special needs (for example, those with intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, or chronic illnesses).

The mission of the RA is to enable each child to achieve their **optimal development** and to provide the family with **comprehensive support** during the earliest stages of life.

Purpose of the RA

For the **first visit**, a **referral from the child's pediatrician** is required.

Once you have the referral, you can make an appointment with the Developmental Clinic:

- **Online**
- **By phone:** 07 39 16 726
- **By mail:**
Developmental Clinic
Novo Mesto Health Center
Kandijska cesta 4, 8000 Novo mesto

First Examination

The child is first examined by the **developmental pediatrician**.

If necessary, and in agreement with the parents or guardians, the child and/or family will then take part in one or more therapies at the Developmental Clinic—such as **occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy, social work, or special education sessions**.

Healthcare Professionals and Collaborators

The Developmental Clinic is headed by **Dr. Klavdija Strajnar**, pediatrician.

She is assisted during scheduling and examinations by **nurse Tatjana Potočar**.

Therapies and sessions are conducted by:

- **Occupational Therapists:** Darja Galič, Damjana Mioč, Benjamin Trontelj
- **Physiotherapists:** Sabina Blatnik, Petar Kapraljević, Tinkara Zalokar
- **Speech Therapist:** Blaž Mišica
- **Social Worker:** Indira Đuherić
- **Special Education Teacher:** Urška Smolič

Approach to Early Intervention

Examinations and therapies are conducted in a **relaxed, child-friendly environment**, most often through **play-based activities** that are adapted to the child's individual needs and pace.

Collaboration with Educational Institutions

The Developmental Clinic collaborates with **kindergartens and schools** across the Dolenjska and Bela krajina regions.

The Clinic also plays a role in the **process of assigning additional professional support** to preschool children who require special educational assistance.