

Management for Spasticity and Its Effectiveness for Children with Spastic Cerebral Palsy

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Spasticity is a common problem in children with cerebral palsy. To achieve better functional outcome, physical therapists should be able to measure and manage spasticity and its related problems. The content of this article included the definition of spasticity, classification of cerebral palsy, clinical symptoms and signs, and its influence on body structure and function after reviewing literatures in the recent 10 years. Furthermore, the treatment to spasticity and its effectiveness for comtemporarily medicine, including medication, surgery, and physical therapy were also described in this article. It cannot be denied that medication and surgery do have significant efficacy to decrease spasticity, but for the movement disorder and functional limitation associated with spasticity, physical therapy is the centre of all treatments for improving function for children with spastic cerebral palsy. (FJPT 2007;32(3):138-146)

Key Words: Spasticity, Cerebral palsy, Treatment, Botox, Selective dorsal rhizotomy, surgery, Neurodevelopment treatment, Functional therapy, Electric stimulation

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