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Effect of physiotherapy training on reach performance during standing in children with diplegic cerebral palsy with and without ankle foot orthosis

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Aim: To compare the effect of physiotherapy treatment on reach performance in children with diplegic CP with additive effect of AFO.

Material & Methods: 21 children aged above 4 years, with diplegic cerebral palsy were recruited from different centers and assigned into 2 groups: Group A with AFO and group B without AFO. All participants' reaching performance was assessed. Each subject was given balance and gait training for 4 weeks and post intervention reach test was measured.

Results: Mean change in distance measured by forward reach test and lateral reach test from the baseline covered by patients with AFO was statistically highly significant more at 4 weeks and after 4 weeks of intervention. Mean change in distance measured by forward reach test and lateral reach test from the baseline covered by patients with AFO did not statistically significantly differ as compared to the patients without AFO at 4 weeks of intervention.

Conclusions: Balance and gait training is effective in improving reach performance in children with diplegic CP. But there is no such differentiation in wearing AFO in the improvement of forward and lateral reaching test.

Biography

Vidhi Gajjar has completed her Bachelor of Physiotherapy in the year 2011 and Master of Physiotherapy in the year of 2015 from Sardar Patel University, India. Her work experience is of six years after graduation. Her field of interest is Paediatric Neurology.

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