Reviewer's report

Title: The influence of initial spasticity in young children (18 months of age) with Cerebral Palsy on their development in gross motor function

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Reviewer: mintaze kerem gunel

Reviewer's report:

Referee for Jan Willem Gorter, Olaf Verschuren, Laura Van Riel and Marjolijn Ketelaar

BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders

The influence of initial spasticity in young children (18 months of age) with Cerebral Palsy on their development in gross motor function

Major Compulsory Revisions

Background

The authors should state how their methods are better suited to answer the somewhat unsettled and disputed question about to evaluate the influence of initial spasticity in the lower limbs of young children (under the age of two years) with CP on their development in gross motor function in one year?

Because, children with cerebral palsy are growing up during one year so the authors also should explain this condition and how is the effectiveness on your study results?

How can this study answer if any findings are a result of children of spastic?

We need information about “initial spasticity for young children with cerebral palsy?

Procedure

Authors declared as “All assessments were performed by a team of trained research assistants with a background in physiotherapy, movement sciences or medicine”. Although GMFM and Modified Tardieu Scale are still inter-reliable methods, must be explained the reason of the measure which is performed by different researchers.
The authors need to indicated why did prefer Modified Tardieu Scale for assessment of spasticity and GMFM for motor development?

Participation

More information should be provided about the subjects? Etc. demographic information, IQ degree, environment and family factors are??

Participant’s knowledge must be related manuscripts Tables.

Including Table I: Dysknetic subject is participated in this study? Why?

Discussion

The authors need to discuss the other factors that effective on growing children with cerebral palsy.

In first paragraph, the authors need to talk about environment and family factors?

The authors investigated only three muscle/ muscles group in the lower extremities. The authors need to discuss why select only this muscles and how they present as “spasticity situation” on cerebral palsy and how is the effect “motor development”?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.