

Title: Evaluation of Cerebellar Ataxia from the Perspective of an Occupational Therapist

Abstract:

The bachelor's thesis deals with the issue of occupational therapy in patients with cerebellar ataxia, especially with the possibilities of examination and evaluation of ataxia using assessment tools. The theoretical part of the thesis describes the types of ataxia. Further focuses only on cerebellar ataxia. The paper defines the individual terms characterizing the symptoms of cerebellar lesions. It also describes how these individual symptoms are examined. Further details on the tools found to assess cerebellar ataxia are included. One chapter also focuses on the role of occupational therapy in patients with cerebellar ataxia. It describes the possibilities of occupational therapy intervention in these patients and presents some therapeutic approaches.

The aim of the bachelor thesis is to create a translation of the "Scale for the Assessment and Rating of Ataxia (SARA)" tool from English into Czech using the so-called "back translation" method and to evaluate its applicability in practice. The practical part describes the creation of the translation and the subsequent evaluation process. The translation was created with the help of two impartial translators on a native English speaker level and was continuously consulted with the supervisor. The evaluation process of SARA translation consisted of the assessment of the usability of the tool by occupational therapists from the Czech Republic and the assessment of its usability by the author of the bachelor's thesis on a sample of 9 patients with cerebellar ataxia. An online questionnaire regarding the assessment was given to the occupational therapists.

The paper results in a translated SARA tool in the Czech language and in the evaluation of its applicability in occupational therapy practice.

Key words: cerebellar ataxia, occupational therapy, ataxia evaluation, SARA