

Thesis abstract

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Thesis Title: Occupational Therapy Practise Guidelines Proposal in Children aged 3-18 years with Developmental Coordination Disorder

Abstract:

Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) is a neurodevelopmental condition with a prevalence of 6 % among children in the population. The cause of this condition is unknown, but there are known risk factors, such as very low birth weight or maternal exposure to drugs and alcohol during pregnancy. Symptoms include coordination difficulties, impaired motor learning and planning, executive function challenges, and overall mental health vulnerabilities.

Each child exhibits different manifestations, and comprehensive care is required, provided by an interprofessional team, which includes occupational therapists. Occupational therapists should base their practice on high-quality care standards. Just like in medicine, there are currently global trends in occupational therapy towards developing Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG), which are still lacking, especially in the field of occupational therapy. CPGs primarily serve to improve and standardize care.

The main goal of this work is to create a proposal for clinical practice guidelines in occupational therapy for developmental coordination disorder in children aged 3-18 in the Czech Republic. Another objective is to compile an overview of diagnostic tools and intervention options in occupational therapy for DCD in children.

The thesis generally describes DCD, its types, symptoms, and comorbidities. It also mentions rehabilitation and emphasizes the importance of occupational therapy. The output is the proposed CPG and an overview of diagnostic and intervention possibilities in occupational therapy for the mentioned issue.

Key words: developmental dyspraxia, developmental coordination disorder, occupational therapy, guidelines, pediatrics