ABSTRACT

Aim: The aim of this theoretical work is to gain an understanding of physiotherapy interventions that are effective on the executive function of children with cerebral palsy.

Methodology: In a narrative review, we searched internet databases according to appropriate keywords to find studies dealing with our topic. Subsequently, the discovered studies had to meet our predefined inclusion criteria. We used MICROSOFT WORD and MICROSOFT EXCEL for this procedure.

Results: Our findings are based on ten included studies consisting of three randomized controlled trials, three cross-sectional studies and four study protocols of randomized controlled trials. Some studies showed us a significant effect (p<0.05) of physiotherapy on executive function in children with cerebral palsy, where yoga, ballet modified for this diagnosis or intensive exercise were used in the intervention. In addition to their effectiveness on the executive functions we examined, these therapies also demonstrated an effect on improvement in reaching predetermined goals or walking.

Conclusion: The effect of physiotherapy on executive function in children with cerebral palsy may seem like an undiscovered topic, but some of the studies we found used interventions that are effective on this investigated area.

Keywords: children, cerebral palsy, physiotherapy, rehabilitation, executive function