



FEEDING, GROWTH AND NUTRITION DISORDERS IN CEREBRAL PALSY

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Objective: To evaluate the growth, physical development and nutrition status for a sample of cerebral palsied children with spastic, dyskinetic and ataxic type. **Material and methods:** A total of 81 children with CP, who were rehabilitated in the pediatrics rehabilitation clinic between 2005 - 2008 years, were included. Children's assessments included: anthropometric measures (height H, recumbent length L, weight W), anthropometric indicators (weight for length WL, body mass index BMI) and was calculated the Z score, ZWL (Z score of weight for length) and ZBMI (the Z score for BMI related to the age). The oral-motor dysfunction were quantified on a scale developed for the evaluation of feeding disorders in this population. SCPE classification was used in CP typing. **Results:** 30% subjects presented mild alimentary disorder, 12% moderate and 5% severe alimentary disorders. 2/9 cases (for the child younger than 2 years) showed a ZWL under -2SD. 4/72 (5.5%) subjects from the group of children older than 2 years were overweight and 7 (10%) have presented an altered nutritional status (ZBMI under -2SD). **Discussion and Conclusion:** Nutrition evaluation is important and should be done early and periodically to ensure proper growth for the child, it is important also in rehabilitation and child development, societal participation and motor abilities.

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