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Study on the relationship between sensation of the mandibular position and the oral dysfunctions in the cerebral palsy patients

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Abstract The ability to discriminate the sensation of the mandibular position in the cerebral palsy (CP) patients was studied and the relationship between this ability to discriminate the sensation of the mandibular position and the oral dysfunctions was evaluated. Interdental dimension discrimination tests (IDD test) were performed in order to evaluate the ability to discriminate the sensation of the mandibular position in 18 CP patients and in 15 healthy individuals. Using the test result, points of subjective equality (PSE) and difference limen (DL) were obtained. In addition, the oral dysfunction index was used to evaluate the oral dysfunctions of the CP patients. The results obtained are as follows

1) PSE in the CP patients was significantly lower than that in the healthy individuals.

2) No significant difference was observed in DL between the CP patients and healthy individuals.

3) A significant correlation was observed between PSE and ODI in the CP patients.

Key words Cerebral palsy, Masticatory muscle, Muscle spindle, Oral dysfunction, Sensation of the mandibular position

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