Bound for success: a systematic review of constraint-induced movement therapy in children with cerebral palsy supports improved arm and hand use



Summary

This systematic review included 21 intervention studies and 2 systematic reviews. The intervention studies included 5 RCTs, 2 nonequivalent pretest-posttest control group designs, 3 one-group pretest-posttest design, 3 single-subject research designs and 8 case reports. This study found that the Assisting Hand Assessment (AHA) was the only reliable and valid measure for functional use of the affected UE in bimanual tasks. Inclusion criteria for CIMT programs, type of constraint, duration of constraint and duration of intervention varied greatly from study to study. Positive evidence was found for improved hand use after CIMT, particularly from the less-rigorous study designs.

Reference

Huang, H.H., Fetters, L., Hale, J., McBride. A. (2009). Bound for success: a systematic review of constraint-induced movement therapy in children with cerebral palsy supports improved arm and hand use. Physical Therapy, 89 (11), 1126-41.

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