

Abstract

Title: Effects of hippotherapy on gross motor function in children with cerebral palsy – a review study

Objectives: The main aim of this bachelor thesis is to summarize the results of studies dealing with the influence of hippotherapy on gross motor skills in children with cerebral palsy.

Methods: The work was based on a review study. There were searched two electronic databases - PubMed and Web of Science (WoS).

Results: A total of 115 studies were retrieved for the review study, from which 17 studies were finally included, 632 children with cerebral palsy ranging in age from 2 to 15 years participated in those studies. Six studies followed only one group (SGT), six randomised controlled trials (RCT) were also conducted and a further five studies did not use randomisation but included a control group (NCT).

Conclusions: Based on the results of expert studies conducted over the last twenty years, it can be concluded that hippotherapy may be an effective therapy for children suffering from cerebral palsy.

Keywords: equine therapy; animotherapy; rehabilitation; diseases; disabilities