Understanding Gait Dysfunction in the Child Who has Cerebral Palsy & An Introduction to Management: Help Those Muscles do the Work They Can

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### Gait deviations in CP

- Primary
  - Spasticity
  - Motor control
  - Balance
  - Weakness
- Secondary musculoskeletal problems
  - Contractures
  - Bone deformitiesJoint instability
- Tertiary compensations



# Management to maximize muscle function

- Manage/eliminate high muscle tone
- Correct contractures and lever arm problems
- Strengthen muscles
- Compensate for residual deficits (incapacities) with orthoses or assistive devices

#### Management scheme

- Constants
  - Physical therapy
  - Orthotics
  - Exercise & physical recreation
- Functional assessment
- · Goal setting
- Gait analysis
  - Tone management
  - Bone & joint malalignment
- Orthotic management

So, you want to be able to ...

- Walk
- · Walk better
- · Walk without assistive devices
- · Walk farther

... Goal setting

#### Remember!

- The two primary purposes of moments (muscle force X lever arm distance)
  - stance phase stabilization (support)
  - propulsion (acceleration)
    - of body segments
    - of body mass

#### Gravity is powerful and constant. What holds us up?

- · The antigravity muscles:
  - Gluteus max
  - Gluteus medius
  - Vasti
  - Gastrocnemius
  - Soleus

The Plantarflexion/ Knee Extension Couple



#### Inappropriate PF/KE Couple

- Abnormal ankle moment (too little or too much)
  - excessive second rocker (inadequate muscle moment)
    - weak triceps surae
    - inadequate lever arm (midfoot break)
  - overactive triceps surae (restricted second rocker)

#### Inadequate PF/KE couple





### Tone Management

Unleashing the muscles







#### What is "lever-arm dysfunction"? **Femoral Anteversion** Measurement methods · the "lever-arm" portion of the moment is - Physical exam abnormal - Magilligan xrays · Several types of lever-arm dysfunction exist: – CT scan - Short lever-arm - Fluoroscopy - Flexible lever-arm - Mal-rotated lever-arm - Unstable fulcrum **POSNA 2001** - Positional lever-arm dysfunction Narayanan, Novacheck, Schutte, Gilbert The intra-operative method of estimating femoral anteversion is as accurate as the current "gold standard" of CT scanning.

#### Surgical management

Femoral Derotational Osteotomy (FDO)

Anteversion	<u>Surgery</u>
20-30°	Never
30-40°	+/-
40-50°	Usually
>50°	Almost always

Femoral Derotational Osteotomy Don't underderotate in diplegics and quadriplegics! Don't overderotate hemiplegics! Rigid fixation Early mobilization! •















Forefoot varus (relative to hindfoot in corrected position)





## **3 Major Problems in CP** that compromise muscle function

and mobility

- High muscle tone
- Contractures
- · Lever arm deformities

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