

Clinical Justification

Benefits of standing frames

- Targeted Training is an evidence-based therapy which helps children with neurodisability gain postural control and improve function [Curtis et al, 2015; Butler et al, 2010]. It works on the same principle as typical infant motor development, sequentially from the head downwards. Targeted Training mimics this process, using a specific frame to support the child, dynamic input to increase neurological learning and play-based activities to develop postural control. A dynamic standing frame which enables horizontal transfers is vital for this therapy.
- In addition, the benefits of standing upright are well established and include an increase in bone mineral density, decrease in spasticity, improved range of movement, improved bladder and bowel function, improved cardiorespiratory and cardiopulmonary function and increased pressure relief [Glickman, 2010]. There are also numerous physical benefits of standing, there are an abundance of psychological, social and emotional benefits to being in a standing frame such as improved confidence, self-esteem and self-image, it encourages interaction at eye level with peers, improved ability to communicate, increased alertness and improved cognitive function [Paleg et al, 2013; Taylor, 2009; Lind, 2003; Goodwin et al, 2018]

Reasons why the Squiggles TT is the best prescription for this child (Delete as appropriate)

- **DYNAMIC, TARGETED TRAINING FRAME:** the Squiggles TT has been specifically adapted to support active standing therapy. This includes the:
 - Integrated dynamic rocker base, which can be engaged and adjusted in situ to work on 'reactive control' in a fun way
 - The snug ratchet-design lateral supports which can be locked off to ensure the parent/carer use the frame exactly as prescribed by the therapist
 - High level padded tray which supports the shoulder girdle so child can adequately work on head control
- **3-IN-1 FRAME:** The Squiggles TT can also be used as a standard 3-in-1 standing frame. The individual footplates are able to accommodate children who have a leg length discrepancy, no matter what configuration the frame is set up in.
- **IMPROVE COMFORT AND POSITIONING:** The padded supports throughout ensure comfort whilst the child is in the frame. The medial knee supports to distribute pressure maintaining the child's knees in neutral alignment. The knee supports can be rotated to provide extra lateral support for children with low tone.
- **SAFE AND EASY TRANSFERS:** The chassis pivot has been improved to facilitate full horizontal loading. Unlike other standing frames this allows children with more complexity to be transferred into Squiggles TT to work on developing their head & trunk control.

SUMMARY

Standing therapy is an essential part of 24-hour postural management and confers a range of benefits to children including: increase in bone mineral density, improvement in range of movement, aiding bladder and bowel function and formation of the hip joint. The associated psychological benefits of being upright with peers, aids communication and improves general wellbeing.

The Squiggles TT is a dynamic and versatile standing frame which enables children to develop their head and trunk control in a controlled, fun way. Targeted Training therapy reduces the amount of equipment and intervention children may need in later life, giving them the chance to be more independent and gain vital, functional skills.



References

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