Physical Therapy
Evaluation of the Child
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Objectives

- Identify model of assessment
- Physical therapy evaluation
- Goal setting
- Intervention plan
- Consideration of age
Approach to Assessment

Bottom-Up Approach

- Intervention Plan and Strategies
- Determine Goal
- Identify Strengths and Weaknesses

Assessment
Components of the Evaluation

- History
- Clinical Observations
- Objective Measures
- Standardized Assessments
- Assessment
- Plan
History

• Obtain the history
  • Parent/child/caregiver interview
  • Review medical records
• Medical history
  • Suspected diagnosis, medications, surgeries
  • Family history; the pregnancy, labor and delivery of the child; and perinatal and neonatal events
• Developmental history
• Social history
  • Environmental characteristics, culture, education
Clinical Observation

- At rest in various positions
- Parent/caregiver and child
- Interaction with the environment
- Social responses and communication
Objective Measures

- Range of Motion
- Strength (Motor Grading Scale)
- Tone (Modified Ashworth Scale)
- Motor Control
- Posture/Balance
- Sensory
- Functional Skills & Standardized Tests
- Adaptive Equipment
Assessment

• List the child’s strengths
• List problems and hypothesize reason
• Goals
  • Long-term vs. Short-term
  • Measurable and functional
  • Include a time frame
  • Set by family, child and therapist
  • Goals change with change in problem
  • Re-evaluate if goal is not achieved
Treatment Plan

• Designed to meet specific goals
• Changes with child’s age
• Geared to function the child needs as grows and develops
• Integrate play for motivation
Prognosis & Outcome

• What’s the child’s prognosis?
• What’s the outcomes you want to achieve with treatment?
• Reassess your goals, treatments and outcomes at each session
References