Chiropractic Care and Behavior in Autistic Children
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Autism is a severe behavioral and neurological disorder including gross deficits in language development. If speech is present, peculiar speech patterns such as immediate and delayed echolalia, metaphorical language, or pronominal reversal frequently will exist. A child with autism may display bizarre responses to various aspects of the environment including resistance to change, peculiar interest in or attachments to animate or inanimate objects.

A systematic series of chiropractic adjustments were administered to 26 autistic children to see if behavioral or neurological remediations would occur concomitant to the nine month care plan. The children were recruited through three local autism societies from the greater Atlanta area.

Behavioral data for the study were collected by both the classroom teachers and the children’s parent(s). Objective data were collected through Brain Stem Evoked Potential (BSEPs) recordings, pre and post x-ray films, a dual probe infrared heat recording graph instrument, and a supine leg check analysis. Student clinicians performed physicals on each child reevaluating at three month intervals. Subjective data were collected through both a Modified Autism Checklist and a Childhood Autism Rating Scale (CARS). (JCCP, Volume 5, Number 1, Spring/Summer 2000)

Key Terms: autism, pervasive developmental disorder, developmental delayed, subluxation, upper cervical technique, Grostic technique, orthospinology

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Need to buy the book £25 - £70


http://www.sorsi.com/autism-related-articles - I have e-mailed SORSI asking for access to research documents.
Potisk, TJ; A case study of a five year old male with autism/pervasive development disorder who improved remarkably and quickly with chiropractic treatment. Proceedings of the World Federation of Chiropractic Congress. 2001 May; 6: 313

ABSTRACT: Introduction: Autism and pervasive development disorder (PDD) are developmental disabilities that share many of the same characteristics. Usually evident by age three, autism and PDD are neurological disorders that affect a child’s ability to communicate, understand language, play, and relate to others. The diagnosis of Autism and PDD is determined via observation of symptoms in three major areas. The incidence of Autism/PDD varies depending on the party of investigation; however, the incidence is rapidly increasing according to all parties and is greatly prevalent among males. The characteristics vary widely in abilities, intelligence, and behaviors. The underlying cause of the disorder is hotly debated and theorized.

Method: An examination, history, and x-ray analysis resulted in a prescription for a series of chiropractic adjustments to specific spinal areas on this five-year-old male. Details of the examination findings, treatment methods, risks, expectations, and responsibilities of parent/child were explained to involved parties. A subjective and objective monitoring system was established and mutually agreed upon.

Results: Extraordinary progress was noted in the patient by all involved parties. The subjective and objective monitoring system revealed a 96% overall improvement after 2 weeks of treatment. A 102% overall improvement was revealed on a 3.5 year follow-up, the mother adding that the child appeared near normal. This progress is vastly superior to typical progress following standard medical treatment.

Conclusion: Chiropractic treatment may be helpful to other autism/PDD cases. Further investigation utilizing clinical trials and double blind studies are warranted and planned for the future. The monitoring system can be improved by adding more observers/evaluators to rule out any bias. If future investigations yield similar results as above it may lead to preventive measures for this type disorder.

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http://www.chiro.org/research/ABSTRACTS/Effect_of_Chiropractic_Adjustments_on_the_Behavior.shtml

The Effect of Chiropractic Adjustments on the Behavior of Autistic Children: A Case Review

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Autism is a severe behavioral and neurological disorder involving or inappropriate use of language, bizarre behaviors and an insistence on
sameness. A systematic series of chiropractic adjustments was administered to six autistic children to see if behavioral or neurological remediations would occur concomitant to treatment. The subjects were recruited from a Kansas City area specialized facility. Data used for the study were collected by the classroom teachers. Those behaviors that remained fairly constant prior to treatment were selected for analysis. Results were divided into observable effects and no observable effects. All of the observable effects that occurred following intervention were in the desired direction. Behavioral improvements were observed in such diverse areas as picking up toys, use of sign language, reduction of self-abuse and appropriate use of language. It is hoped that this pilot study will generate further research into the effects of chiropractic adjustments on similar neurological disorders.