

Abstract

Title: Evaluation of motor skills level in children of the primary education of selected Prague elementary schools

Objectives: The main aim of the study was to evaluate current level of motor skills of primary education children of selected Prague elementary schools using standardized assessment battery MABC-2. A partial goal of the study was to compare the level achieved in the MABC-2 test with the data acquired through the questionnaire survey regarding physical activities of participating responders. (n = 134).

Methods: A total number of 134 responders (60 girls and 74 boys) aged from 7 to 12 years from two selected Prague elementary schools participated in the research. The level of motor skills of all participants was examined using a standardized assessment battery MABC-2. The testing was carried out in the form of field research during physical education lessons at selected schools. A questionnaire designed specifically for the purpose of this study, subsequently completed by legal representatives of the responders, was used for the orientation examination of the physical behaviour of the participants. The data from the questionnaire survey was subsequently compared with the level achieved in the MABC-2 test. MS Excel 2010 was used to interpret the results and to process the data statistically. As for descriptive statistical methods, the Student's t-test and Cohen's effect coefficient were employed.

Results: According to the MABC-2 test, 10.4% (n = 14) of the responders were identified as to be at risk of motor difficulties, and in 4.5% of the responders (n = 6) severe motor difficulties were detected. The study proved linear correlation between the level achieved in the MABC-2 test and the number of hours per month when children spend common physical activities with their parents. The boys (n = 74) achieved lower levels of motor skills than girls.

Keywords: DCD, MABC-2, primary education children, motor skills, motor competence, physical inactivity, developmental dyspraxia, developmental coordination disorder