Abstract:

Cerebral palsy (CP) is one of the most frequent neurodevelopmental deseases. The brain lesion may disturb upper extremity functioning in children with cerebral palsy (CP). This thesis aims to create a therapeutic program focused on movability of upper limbs in school-aged children with CP and and verify the efficiency of this therapeutic program. Another goal is to consider the applicability of the Jebsen Taylor Test of Hand Function for assessment of hand function in children with CP.

The theoretical part deals elaborately with cerebral palsy, therapeutic interventions in children with CP and its efficiency according to the evidence based medicine. This part also deals with standardized assassment tools and pays close attention to the Jebsen Taylor Test of Hand Function (JTTHF) and the Manual Ability Classification System (MACS).

The practical part presents six case studies of children with cerebral palsy who attended the occupational therapy three times a week over three weeks. The created therapeutic program includes three areas focused on the bimanual training, grips and grafomotorics. This program was appropriate for four of six children patients. The program was too hard for children with quadruparesis classified as MACS IV. The other children were classified as MACS II.

The efficiency of the therapy was measured by the comparison of the input and output assesments of JTTHF and MACS. Improvements occured in JTTHF, five of six patients improved in most subtests and no patient improved in all subtests of JTTHF.