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Cervical Kyphosis Is a Possible Link to Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To discuss the case of a patient who was diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) by a general practitioner and was treated with chiropractic care.

Clinical Features: A 5-year-old patient was diagnosed with ADHD and treated by a pediatrician unsuccessfully with methylphenidate (Ritalin), Adderall, and Haldol for 3 years. The patient received 35 chiropractic treatments during the course of 8 weeks. A change from a 12° C2-7 kyphosis to a 32° C2-7 lordosis was observed after treatment. During chiropractic care, the child's facial tics resolved and his behavior vastly improved. After 27 chiropractic visits, the child's pediatrician stated that the child no longer exhibited symptoms of ADHD. The changes in structure and function may be related to the correction of cervical kyphosis.

Conclusion: The patient experienced significant reduction in symptoms. Additionally, the medical doctor concluded that the reduction in symptoms was significant enough to discontinue the medication. There may be a possible connection that correction of cervical kyphosis in patients with ADHD may produce a desirable clinical outcome. (*J Manipulative Physiol Ther* 2004;27:e14)

Key Indexing Terms: *Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder; Cervical Traction; Chiropractic Manipulation*

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