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Uszkodzenia ośrodkowego układu nerwowego u wcześniaków i noworodków donoszonych w aspekcie problemów neurologicznych i rehabilitacyjnych

Central nervous system damage in premature and term infants- neurological and rehabilitation aspects

SUMMARY

Central nervous system damage in premature and term infants- neurological and rehabilitation aspects

Intensive progress in technique and medicine has influenced the survival-ratio of premature infants with very low and even extremely low birth weight. The infants due to central nervous and others systems immaturity, respiratory insufficiency, infections and congenital malformations are particularly vulnerable for the brain damage. The brain damage in term infants is also a big problem. Significant decrease of brain damage sequels is an important goal for child neurologist and specialists in rehabilitation. The multidisciplinary care, early diagnosis and pharmacological treatment of the epileptic seizures, which can dramatically worsen the prognosis are also very important. In that area, the role of rehabilitation is essential. Intracranial hemorrhages, periventricular leucomalacia, strokes and intrauterine and perinatal infections, including neuroinfections, are the etiological factors in brain damage. However, the mechanisms of the brain plasticity and very intensive brain development during the firsts months of life are the physiological basis for neurorehabilitation. Taking care of infants with risk of disabilities is a task for many medical specialists, but the strong collaboration with parents is essential. The parents should be intensively involved in the systematic rehabilitation process. The complex care is a big chance for infants with perinatal brain damage for restriction of neurological deficits and improvement of prognosis. Apart from activities targeted against premature delivery and towards better obstetrics and neonatal care, the role of specialist in child neurology and rehabilitation is very important. It shall not be forgotten, that the infants with perinatal brain damage can have many other medical problems as for instance genetic diseases with neurological signs. The diagnosis of these diseases should be established very early. Such diagnosis is crucial for proper rehabilitation.