

EARLY VERTICALIZATION AND OBESITY AS RISK FACTORS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FLAT FEET IN CHILDREN

Summary

The foot is one of the most important parts of human body, but it is also the one that is given the least attention. The number of population with feet deformities is on increase, and this is especially true for children. Therefore, it is evident that there is need for early detection and timely prevention of such deformities. The most frequent deformity of feet is flat feet. An acquired flat foot can be developed as a consequence of a number of different causes. Among these, obesity and early verticalization are the most usual. The primary goal of this research was to control the condition of feet and body mass index in elementary school children (grades 1 to 4) and to interview parents in order to acquire data on presence of various risk factors (obesity and early verticalization) for the development of deformities (flat foot), and to establish the significance in difference among the tested groups.

Key words: *early verticalization, obesity, development, feet, deformities*
