

Posturography characteristics of obese children. Steinberg N; Nemet D; Pantanowitz M; Kohen-Raz R; Zeev A; Eliakim A. (2013). Perceptual and .Motor Skills. In Press

Summary.—A group of 59 obese children ages 6-12 years were interviewed for current medical diagnoses (e.g., Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder- ADHD, clumsiness) and later were examined posturographically for balance and stability. General stability of all the obese children deviated significantly from norms. 32.2% of the obese children had a pattern of balance that could indicate orthopedic problems. Obese children with ADHD or perceived clumsiness had significantly worse balance and postural performance compared to other obese children. Balance and posture among obese children without suspicion of problems were similar to non-obese controls. In conclusion, obese children with associated disorders (such as ADHD and perceived clumsiness) manifested disturbance in balance control. Thus, physical activity interventions for these children should include safety measures to decrease .the chances of falling and subsequent injury