



# Management of upper limb in cerebral palsy



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### Importance of upper limb in CP

- Activities of daily living
- Feeding
- Toilet care
- Walker and wheelchair
- Support hand





## Problems in upper limb

- Shoulder adduction and internal rotation contracture
- Elbow flexion contracture
- Forearm pronation
- Wrist palmer flexion
- Finger flexion
- Thumb in palm



### Aims and objectives

 Document improvement in hand and upper limb function using Botulinum toxin A or surgical approach in children with cerebral palsy

### Material and Methods

- 20 children diagnosed with spastic type of cerebral palsy with upper limb involvement
- Age 3 yrs-18 yrs.
- Follow up of 1-4 yrs.
- All children were undergoing regular physiotherapy
- 8 Children-less than 8 yrs with spasticity were injected with Botulinim toxin A
- 12 Children-more than 8 yrs. were operated

#### Botulinum toxin A - 8 children

- Pronator teres -8
- Wrist flexors- 6
- Biceps-2
- Thumb adductors-2
- Pectoralis-1



## Surgery - 12 children

- Pronator release- 5 cases
- Flexor carpi ulnaris to extensor carpi radialis brevis transfer – 12 cases
- Biceps aponeurotic release 1 case
- Thumb adductor release 1 case

# Flexor carpi ulnaris (FCU) to extensor carpi radialis brevis transfer(ECRB)



# Flexor carpi ulnaris to extensor carpi radialis brevis transfer



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# Flexor carpi ulnaris (FCU) to extensor carpi radialis brevis transfer(ECRB)



# Flexor carpi ulnaris to extensor carpi radialis brevis transfer

Before surgery

After surgery



### Results

- Mean improvement in range of supination: 40 degrees
- Mean improvement in wrist dorsiflexion: 50 degrees
- Mean improvement in elbow extension: 30 degrees

#### House scoring system of upper extremity functional use

Level	Category	Description		
0	Does not use	Does not use		
1	Poor passive assist	Uses as stabilizing weight only		
2	Fair passive assist	Can hold object placed in hand		
3	Good passive assist	Can hold object and stabilize it for use by other hand		
4	Poor active assist	Can actively grasp object and hold it weakly		
5	Fair active assist	Can actively grasp object and stabilize it well		
6	Good active assist	Can actively grasp object and manipulate it		
7	Spontaneous use, partial	Can perform bimanual activities and occasionally uses hand spontaneously		
8	Spontaneous use, complete	Uses hand completely independently without preference		

#### Results

### Supination

	before (Passive)	After (passive)	Before (active)	After (active)
Botulinum toxin A	neutral	Full supination	20 deg pronation	
Surgical group				

#### Botulinum Toxin A

Before Botox



After Botox



#### Surgery - House scoring system of upper extremity functional use

Level	Category	Description	before	after
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#### After FCU to ECRB transfer

#### After FCU to ECRB transfer

Before Surgery

After Surgery

### Conclusion

- Both Botulinum Toxin A and Surgery improved the upper extrimity functional use
- Duration of action of Botox for upper limb was short lived
- Full active supination was not possible even after botox or release of pronator
- Tendon transfer to augment supinator action can be considered

### Conclusion

- Early surgical transfer (Before 12 yrs.) can lead to late deformities like wrist extension contracture and supination contracture
- Tendon transfer may be required for thumb in palm deformity
- An accurate assessment of hand sensation, power and spasticity is essential to get the best results

#### Literature Review

- Upper extremity spasticity in children with cerebral palsy: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of the short-term outcomes of treatment with botulinum a toxin. Koman LA, Smith BP, Williams R, Richardson R, Naughton M, Griffin L, Evans P.J Hand Surg Am. 2013 Mar;38(3):435-446.
- Arm and hand function in children with unilateral cerebral palsy: a oneyear follow-up study. KlingelDev Med Child Neurol. 2006 Jun;48(6):533-9
- **Management of the upper limb in cerebral palsy**. Chin TY, Duncan JA, Johnstone BR, Graham HK.J Pediatr Orthop B. 2005 Nov;14(6):389-404
- Late deformities following the transfer of the flexor carpi ulnaris to the extensor carpi radialis brevis in children with cerebral palsy.Patterson JM, Wang AA, Hutchinson DT. J Hand Surg Am. 2010 Nov;35(11):1774-8. doi: 10.1016/j.jhsa.2010.07.014





## Thank YOU



