#### **GRAVITY CHAIR CLINICAL STUDY**

Appraisal to show the medical benefits

#### First test object

Tested: Gravity Chair

Reviewed by: Heinrich-Piepmeyer-house, Münster

Period: January to May 2010

### 2 Implementing device

The Heinrich-Piepmeyer property offers a complete range of care for children with disabilities and their families:

The parent-child course provides parents with disabilities or at risk of disability children per year, more than 12 three-week in-patient rehabilitation.

It caters for children with a variety of physical or mental disabilities or children who are at risk of disability at the age of one to 12 years.

Within the parent-child course the families are cared for by a multi-professional team.

These combine the following occupational groups for non-medical healthcare professions, the nursing, medical and educational area for interdisciplinary teams:

Paediatrician, paediatric neurologist, neuro-orthopaedic surgeon, manual therapy, nursing, nutrition counselling, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social and health education.

The interdisciplinary disciplines including doctors. The aim of the courses is

- the children to the greatest possible independence in everyday life to help
- the motor skills to promote the children as well as possible
- To allow the targeted use of appropriate tools to the compensation of skills
- the cognitive resources to exploit

- to alleviate disease symptoms
- Secondary to prevent damage.

The parents

- relieved when maintaining
- trained in handling aids
- advice in everyday and educational issues

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Therapy concepts are developed and built to support the children in their individual development due to a holistic diagnosis.

Parents are shown relief options for everyday wear. Aid to locomotion and all areas of daily life can be thoroughly tested before they are prescribed. In the provision of aids especially occupational therapists, physiotherapists and doctors operate.

In the nursery disabled and non-disabled children are cared for and educated together. The therapeutic measures are an integral part of everyday life in the nursery. Individual measures to promote are embedded in the daily lives of children, group situation can be created and used to provide living and learning together, the carry from the therapy in everyday life and vice versa is possible. A sensible, effective use of aid plays an important role in the lives of children who are dependent to replace body functions through the use of aids or support.

# **3rd Test Duration and implementation:**

The Gravity Chair has been tested in the Heinrich-Piepmeyer House of therapists and parents in everyday use over several weeks.

## 4 indications

In both departments Children are cared for with a variety of hindrance and diseases. The Gravity Chair can be used successfully in our opinion, in children with the following symptoms:

Cerebral Palsy

Hypotoniesyndrome (of unknown origin)

Muscle diseases

Syndrome disorders

Multiple disabilities

Metabolic diseases

Children after traumatic brain injury.

The testing was supervised by an occupational therapist.

#### 5 results

**Functioning** 

The Gravity Chair can be used by its design features in the five available sizes for many patients. Despite differences in body size and physical needs of the patients are safely absorbed and can be seated in a good physiological position. The Gravity Chair provides a favourable microclimate.

Medical and therapeutic benefit

The Gravity Chair serves as a safe seating facility for children and adolescents with moderate to severe motor impairment. It can be used in various therapies in a variety of everyday situations. The chair is suitable for use both at home and in the community

Security

The chair is safe and sturdily constructed.

Handling

The chair is easy to adapt to the different needs of children. The cover is easy to clean.

Risk Warning

The users should be advised of the specific features of the chair.

## Conclusion

The concept of the Gravity Chair meets the needs of children with different disabilities, who cannot sit independently. The Gravity Chair provides a safe and physiological leadership that leads some patients to learn a separate sitting only. The feedback from Our patients and their parents is that the overall benefits of the have the Gravity Chair are positive. The positive feedback refers to the functionality and visual appearance.

The chair offers good Mitwachsmöglichkeiten and is also in the interest of economic and term benefit of paediatric seating

The following is a detailed description of the clinical trial:

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