



The Child Development Center of Colorado Springs, Inc.

Newsletter

Fall 2007 Volume I, Issue 3

At the Child Development Center we are dedicated to providing high quality and effective treatment for children with Sensory Processing Disorder.

Our Occupational Therapy team is comprised of four experienced clinicians each with extensive training in the evaluation and treatment of children with sensory processing dysfunction.

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD)

Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) is a complex disorder of the brain that affects developing children and adults. People with SPD misinterpret everyday sensory information, such as touch, sound, and movement.

What Does SPD Look Like?

There are several types of Sensory Processing Disorder; each one may result in a number of different behavioral and sensory patterns. Some of the most common behavior patterns are described below.

Sensory-Avoiding Children:

Some children with SPD are over-responsive to sensation. Their nervous systems feel sensation too easily or too intensely.

These children may:

- Respond to being touched with aggression or withdrawal
- Fear movement and heights, or get sick from exposure to movement
- Be very cautious and unwilling to take risks or try new things
- Feel uncomfortable in loud or busy environments
- Be very picky eaters and/or overly sensitive to food smells

Sensory-Seeking Children:

Some children are under-responsive to sensation. Their nervous systems do not always recognize the sensory information that is coming into the brain.

Some behaviors seen in these children include:

- Hyperactivity as they seek more sensation
- Unawareness of touch or pain, or touching others too often or too hard
- Seek feelings of vibration
- Taking part in unsafe activities
- Enjoying sounds that are too loud

Motor Skills Problems

Other children with SPD have trouble processing sensory information properly, resulting in problems with planning and carrying out new actions. These children often are clumsy, awkward, and accident prone.

Those children may have:

- Poor fine motor skills
- Poor gross motor skills
- Difficulty imitating movements
- Trouble with balance, sequences of movements, and bilateral coordination
- A preference for familiar activities or play
- A preference for sedentary activities

If you have questions regarding Sensory Processing Disorder or would like an in-service for your staff, please contact Tami Lamphere, OTR at the Child Development Center (719) 574-8300.

Potential Child Behavior Problems Resulting from Sensory Integration/Sensory Processing Dysfunction

These are common behavior problems that are RED FLAG INDICATORS of children with sensory processing disorder.

EXCESSIVE ENERGY AND ACTIVITY LEVEL

REMARKABLY LOW ENERGY AND ACTIVITY LEVEL: A child may appear lethargic, uninterested in engaging in the world, or be sedentary most of the day.

FREQUENT IMPULSIVENESS: A child may be unable to control impulses to jump out of his seat, control his behavior, may be aggressive, and/or frequently “blurt” things out without thinking first.

SHORT ATTENTION SPAN AND DISTRACTIBILITY: A child may have difficulty concentrating on one activity for any length of time and be distracted by every sight, sound, smell, and/or movement he sees.

MOTOR COORDINATION DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS WITH MUSCLE TONE: A child may appear clumsy, or like a “wet noodle”, slouch or rest his head on his hands/arm during desk work, exhibit awkward movements, and/or have frequent accidents or injuries.

MOTOR PLANNING DIFFICULTIES: A child may have difficulty with sports, handwriting, balance, using eating utensils, riding a bike, doing jumping jacks, clapping, or getting dressed.

SIGNIFICANT RESISTANCE TO THE UNFAMILIAR: A child may experience anxiety or refuse to try new foods, meet new people, participate in new activities or sleep in a different environment.

SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL SKILL BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS: A child may have a difficult time relating to other children and sharing. He may isolate, be overpowering, aggressive, or bossy to help him regulate and control his sensory environment.

Experience Counts!

We've Been Making a BIG Difference in Little Lives since 1988

3090 N. Academy Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80917
(719) 574-8300 Fax (719) 574-9547

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cdcpedsrehab.com

New Hours:

Monday
8 am – 6:00 pm.

Tuesday – Friday
8 am – 6:30 pm



**Child Development Center
of
Colorado Springs, Inc.**
3090 North Academy Blvd
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

PHONE:
(719) 574-8300

FAX:
(719) 574-9547

E-MAIL:
info@cdcpedsrehab.com

Specialized Sensory Integrative Treatment Offered:

Interactive Metronome (IM) -

IM is a brain-based assessment and training program developed to directly improve the processing abilities that affect attention, motor planning, and sequencing.

Brain Integration – Brain

Integration Therapy includes exercises and repatterning methods to promote coordinated use of all the senses.

Therapeutic Listening Program –

TLP is an auditory modality that uses electronically altered sounds to impact the nervous system.

Wilbarger Deep Pressure

Technique – The Wilbarger Technique is a protocol that incorporates use of a soft surgical brush and joint compressions completed as part of an intensive home program. The purpose of this technique is to improve the child's overall ability to respond appropriately to the various sensory events in his/her life.

INSURANCE

Do you have questions about your patient's insurance coverage? Call us! Our friendly and knowledgeable billing staff will be happy to help you

You can also send an E-mail with your question to:

info@cdcpedsrehab.com

The Child Development Center is a provider for most major insurance companies.

FUN FITNESS

Setting the Stage for Good Health in Adult Life

A fitness program developed for the overweight and under active child ages 8-12 years. **Fun Fitness** is designed to educate and encourage children and their families to develop healthy, active lifestyles. The **Fun Fitness**

program services are provided by licensed physical therapists. The program is designed with an 8-week curriculum.

Could your child be at risk?

He or she regularly eats high calorie foods.
He or she is physically inactive.
There is a family history of overweight, obesity, heart disease or diabetes.

New Classes

Starting

Soon!

**Child Development Center of
Colorado Springs, Inc.**
3090 N Academy Blvd
Colorado Springs CO 80917-5310