

Non-Musculoskeletal conditions

Effect of mobilization on autonomic nervous system

A 2014 systematic review found that evidence suggests that spinal mobilization in asymptomatic populations has an excitatory effect on the sympathetic nervous system, regardless of which segment is mobilized.¹

ADHD

A 2010 systematic review states that the evidence is insufficient to support or refute the benefit of chiropractic care for ADHD in children.²

Asthma

The 2014 update of the 2010 UK report found that evidence is inconclusive rather than negative for SMT for asthma. It also found inconclusive but favorable evidence for osteopathic manual therapy and inconclusive favorable evidence for cranio-sacral therapy.³

A 2010 systematic review states that “chiropractic care showed improvements in subjective measures and, to a lesser degree objective measures, none of which were statistically significant... some asthmatic patients may benefit from this treatment approach; however, at this time, the evidence suggests chiropractic care should be used as an adjunct, not a replacement, to traditional medical therapy.”⁴

Autism spectrum disorders

A 2011 systematic review suggests that, although the literature is limited, “a trial of chiropractic care for sufferers of autism is...warranted.”⁵

Cervicogenic vertigo

The 2014 update of the 2010 UK report found inconclusive but favorable evidence for SMT/mobilization for cervicogenic dizziness.³

The same update found inconclusive evidence for evidence for diversified chiropractic manipulation for the improvement of balance in older adults.³

A 2010 systematic review indicates that SMT is effective for cervicogenic vertigo.⁶

Hypertension

The 2014 update of the 2010 UK report found inconclusive but favorable evidence for upper cervical NUCCA manipulation for stage 1 hypertension; inconclusive evidence for instrument assisted, Gonstead full spine or osteopathic SMT.³

Infantile colic

The 2014 update of the 2010 UK report found inconclusive but favorable evidence SMT and also for cranial osteopathic manual therapy³

A 2011 systematic review suggests that chiropractic care is safe and “a viable alternative” for infantile colic.⁷

A Cochrane database systematic review stated, “... it [is] impossible to arrive at a definitive conclusion about the effectiveness of manipulative therapies for infantile colic.”⁸

Otitis media

A 2012 narrative review stated, “there [is] currently no evidence to support or refute using SMT for OM and no evidence to suggest that SMT produces serious adverse effects for children with OM.”⁹

A 2007 systematic review stated, “Evidence was promising for potential benefit of manual procedures for children with otitis media...”¹⁰

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Non-Musculoskeletal conditions continued

Premenstrual syndrome and dysmenorrhea

A 2010 review found that SMT is not effective for dysmenorrhea, compared to a sham manipulation, and that the evidence for premenstrual syndrome is inconclusive.⁶

Respiratory disease

A 2013 systematic review of manual therapy for pediatric respiratory disease indicated that it appears to be beneficial; the most commonly used manual therapies for this population are chiropractic and osteopathic manipulation and massage.¹¹

A 2007 systematic review stated, "Evidence was promising for potential benefit of manual procedures for elderly patients with pneumonia,"⁹ while a 2010 systematic review said the evidence was inconclusive.⁶

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