

The Interplay Between Fecal Retention, Fear Paralysis Reflex, Moro Reflex, and Anxiety in Children Aged 1.5 to 12 Years: A Sensorimotor Perspective on Functional Constipation"

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Abstract:

Functional constipation (FC), particularly fecal retention, is a complex condition in pediatric populations that impacts gastrointestinal health, emotional well-being, and sensorimotor development. Primitive reflexes, such as the Fear Paralysis Reflex (FPR) and Moro Reflex, are integral to early neurodevelopment but can disrupt stress regulation, motor coordination, and emotional stability when retained beyond infancy. This paper explores the intricate connections between FPR, Moro Reflex, and anxiety, emphasizing their role in exacerbating fecal retention and associated symptoms. Drawing from an experimental intervention study and a comprehensive review of the literature, we demonstrate how targeted reflex integration strategies can alleviate these challenges, providing a holistic framework for managing functional constipation.

Keywords:

functional constipation, fecal retention, primitive reflexes, fear paralysis reflex, Moro reflex, anxiety, sensorimotor development, primitive reflex integration