

# **EFFECTS OF MASSAGE AND GYMNASTICS TOWARDS SERUM BDNF AND PSYCHOMOTOR OF CHILDREN UNDER 2 YEARS IN IODINE DEFICIENCY DISORDER (IDD) ENDEMIC AREA**

Zulkhah Noor<sup>1</sup>, Rahma Yuniar Faradyni<sup>2</sup>, Ira Safira<sup>2</sup>, Adang Muhammad Gugun<sup>3</sup>

1. Physiology Department of Faculty of Medicine and Health science Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, [zulkhah.noor@umy.ac.id](mailto:zulkhah.noor@umy.ac.id)
2. Student Faculty of Medicine and Health science Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta
3. Department of Clinical Pathology of Faculty of Medicine and Health science Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

**Keywords:** IDD, Massage, Gymnastics, BDNF, Psychomotor Development

## **INTRODUCTION**

Children living in the mountains are at risk of iodine deficiency disorder (IDD) (Sekhniashvili, 2006). IDD causes hypothyroidism which can lead to impaired neurologic integrity development and axial tonus deficit (Hartono, 2002) and some children continue to display neuromuscular, sensory, and cognitive defects in later life (Nandi-Munchi and Taplin, 2015). Stimulus such as massage and gymnastics will increase somatic and autonomic nerve activity that is thought to be very useful for improving psychomotor development (Cook, 2015). Physical exercise increases BDNF which is a molecular mechanism of enhancement of nerve growth (Piepmeier dan Etnier, 2014). The purpose of this study was to assess the effect of massage and exercise on serum BDNF levels and psychomotor development of children under two years of age in IDD endemic area.

## **Method**

This research type was quasi-experimental with non-randomized one group pretest-posttest design. Research subjects were 40 children under two years old from one of IDD endemic areas in Samigaluh Sub-district, Kulon Progo Regency. Massage and gymnastics were performed by mothers who had been trained before by a physiotherapist. Massage and gymnastics were performed every morning or evening in 10-15 minutes, 1-5 times per week for 2 months. Serum TSH and BDNF levels measured by ELISA method (HUMAN TSH, Jerman dan R&D Systems, Inc., Minneapolis, MN 5413, USA) and Psychomotor development measured by Denver DDST II were performed before and after treatment. Data were analyzed by using T test and Kruskal Wallis test.

## Result

The lowest TSH level of respondents was 1.10 mIU / L and the highest was 17.24 mIU / L and FT4 levels within normal limits ie between 0.93-2.10 ng / L. This condition indicates that subclinical disorder. Similarly, psychomotor children showed no severe disturbances and delays.

Table 1. Changes in TSH and BDNF Levels Between Pre Test and Post Test in The Study

Parameter	N	(Mean ± SD)		Pair T Test (p)
		Pre test	Pos test	
TSH levels (mIU/L)	25	2,82 ±3,37	2.15 ± 1,49	0,286
BDNF levels (pg/ml)	25	8102,80 ± 14471,52	17153,76 ± 5973,39	0,006

Table 2. Difference in Mean Changes of BDNF Levels Based on Frequency of Massage and Gymnastics

Frequency of Massage and Gymnastics	N	Peningkatan kadar BDNF (rerata ±SD)	Independent T test (p)
1-2 times/week	13	6489,31 ± 19273,72	0,391
3-5 times/week	12	11826 ± 8979,00	

Table 3. Mean of Psychomotor Child Development Scores Before and After Treatment

Psychomotor Aspects	N	Psychomotor Development Scores		p
		Mean ± SD		
		Pre test	Post test	
Adaptive and Fine Motor	40	4,97±0,86	5,42±0,87	0,035
Gross Motor	40	4,72±0,81	5,15±0,94	0,015
Personal Social	40	5,17±0,67	5,37±0,89	0,170
Language	40	4,92±1,07	4,90±0,84	0,939

## Conclusion

Massage and gymnastics 1-5 times per week for 2 months in children under 2 years old in IDD endemic areas improves thyroxine function, improves neurological and psychomotor development especially in fine motor and gross motor aspects.

## References

- Sekhniashvili,N., Kvanchakhadze, R., Sekhniashvili , Z and Baramidze, L. 2006, Epidemiology of endemic goiter in mountain region of Adjara Autonomy Republic (Georgia) *Endocrine Abstracts* (2006) **11** P78
- Hartono, B. (2002). Perkembangan Fetus Dalam Kondisi Defisiensi Iodium Dan Cukup Iodium. *Jurnal GAKI Indonesia (Indonesian Journal of IDD)*
- Watson, A. and., Kelso, GL, 2014, The Effect of Brain Gym ® on Academic Engagement For Children with Developmental Disabilities. *International Journal of Special Education*, v29 n2 p75-83 2014

Piepmeyer, AT and Etnier, JL, 2015, Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) as a potential mechanism of the effects of acute exercise on cognitive performance, *Journal of Sport and Health Science*, Volume 4, Issue 1, March 2015, Pages 14-23

Nandi-Munshi, D. and Taplin, CE, 2015, Thyroid-Related Neurological Disorders and Complications in Children, *Paediatric Neurology*, Volume 52, Issue 4, Pages 373–382

Cook, A. 2015, Infant massage: The practice and evidence-base to support it, *MAG Online Library*, *British Journal of Midwifery*, Volume 23, Issue 3