



MUSCLE PARALYSIS IN AN INFANT

by René - father of 5 children

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"But wait a minute! Hadn't I held his legs very rigidly when he was a small baby..."

At nearly 12 months, our fifth child had not yet made any attempts at turning over, crawling, or even at locking in the knees when held to stand. The pediatrician said not to worry, as some children simply were late-developers.

We tried many different methods, but to no avail - he remained at the same level no matter what we did. What was remarkable, however, is that he was extremely agile in the use of his feet. While playing, he used them as though they were hands. He could hold and turn a small pail with his feet, and deposit toys into it with his hands.

Soon after he turned one, we took him to an ergo therapy and muscle exercises. Results were minimal. At 18 months, he could only turn onto his side but couldn't crawl.

Finally, since my wife and I knew about German New Medicine (GNM), it occurred to me to search there for a possible cause and solution to this problem. In retrospect, I cannot imagine why I had not thought of it sooner.

We began to analyze in the GNM way and immediately realized that there had indeed been indications of conflict activity. His hands, and particularly his feet, were often cold. As well, he never slept through the night, waking up as often as four times. We only had to go to his crib and gently stroke his head, however, and he would immediately fall asleep again without having been picked up. Up until now, we had always thought that this fussing was because of the rectal fistula he had had twice - at 4 and 6 months old. Each time, this had required a very painful cleaning process of the affected area, which had taken rather long.

We started ruminating. What *were his present symptoms*? He could move his legs so well and cleverly that he was quite the little monkey - almost as though he had four hands. And yet, he hardly ever made an attempt at anything that required strength such as kicking, pressing, or pushing away. Hmm! Our other children had delighted in kicking our belly during diaper changes, for example, whereas he lay quite still.

Had he perhaps suffered a motor-conflict of "not being able to escape" with his legs? We could not think of anything, because babies cannot walk - nor had he gotten "stuck" anywhere.

How could he have suffered a motor conflict, when he couldn't even walk or crawl? Was it Karma? No, that was a little bit "too out there" for us.

Another possibility for causing a motor conflict in a child was inoculations which, as per GNM, could result in a conflict of "feeling stuck" through being held too tightly. But that didn't apply either, since our son had never been vaccinated. Hmm!

But, wait a minute! Hadn't I held his legs very rigidly when he was a small baby, while my wife tried -- as quickly and efficiently as possible - to clean his rectal fistula before putting the bandage back on?

I got the chills! Naturally, I had held his legs and upper body as carefully as I could, but also quite firmly to better prevent movement of any kind while my wife tightened the threads. He had always screamed mightily during this treatment, since it must have hurt like hell. It was terrible. Although my wife had appreciated my efforts at keeping him still -- because then the procedure wouldn't take longer than absolutely necessary -- it is also true that he had been unable to move even a millimeter at the time! If that did not represent a "not being able to escape-conflict", then what would?

We were enormously relieved to have found a likely cause. All we had to do now was to explain this to him and let him relate his feelings about it to us, and together we would find a way to resolve this conflict. Hmm! Unfortunately, he was a baby -- too small either to speak or to understand anything like this.

What to do? We had an idea! If verbal communication was out of the question, then perhaps body-language was a good alternative. By taking him back into the original situation, we could 'show' him how to resolve his conflict. We laid him down as before, and I held him gently as my wife 'worked on him' by pushing around a bit on his bum in an effort at reminding him of the situation.

As soon as I had gotten a hold on his little legs all happiness had, however, disappeared from his face and his eyes had gotten huge with fear. It was clearly evident in his expression that he was anticipating great pain.

My wife continued gently to push around on his bum. After all, he had not had any sores there for a long time now. But, he became extraordinarily tense and panicky and just about ready to start screaming in anticipation of remembered pain. I loosened my hold. And, nothing happened. There was no change in him. I was only lightly touching his body, expecting some sort of reaction, but he made absolutely no attempt at moving his legs. We waited. Then, when I indeed began to detect faint movement in his legs, I had an inspiration. I pretended that he had 'pushed' my hands away powerfully enough to have to take a step backwards and throw my hands up into the air. He just watched me. Again I held his legs, but less forcefully this time. My wife pushed around on his bum again. This time, the movement in his legs was more noticeable. I again pretended to have been forced by his movement to 'fall back' with arms in the air. He watched me intently again.

We continued to repeat this exercise about 12 to 15 times. His leg-movements continued to become stronger, and the fear and panic in his eyes were slowly disappearing. In the end, he was actually enjoying the 'game' so much that he laughed out loud. (Writing down this last part made me remember Dr. Hamer's saying, "A conflict is resolved, when he/she can laugh about it." How very true!)

My little son kept smiling as I held him down and would deliberately try to straighten his legs in a pretend-kick, while I exaggeratedly 'fell over backwards'. It was wonderful to observe his new-found freedom! He did not have any strength in his little legs yet, but the movements were clearly done to "push something away". We delighted in observing the change in his facial expressions, but it was late in the afternoon and time for him to go to bed. We decided to repeat the exercise often over the following days.

The next morning we were considerably surprised to see that he had slept straight through the night - for the first time in months! His hands felt warm to the touch, he was content, and didn't do his usual fussing. We played the game again, and he was immediately ready to 'push me over' without panic in his eyes. After two days, we stopped the game-playing, since we didn't want to overdo things. Grateful for two nights of uninterrupted sleep, we realized that this surely was no coincidence. However, there still did not seem to be any will to crawl on his part.

At around 2 o'clock during the fifth night, he suddenly started to cry. We tried to calm him down by stroking his head as before, but even picking him up and carrying him around did not get him to stop this time. I was beginning to wonder if this could possibly be the "Epileptoid Crisis". For 40 minutes, I was not able to calm him down. I had him on my arms; he cried and whimpered. Then, within minutes he calmed down and fell asleep in my arms. I put him to bed, and he slept well for the rest of that night, and has continued to do so ever since. It should be noted here that had we had no knowledge of the "Epileptoid Crisis", we would not have been able to recognize these obvious symptoms.

Our son's attempts at crawling, slowly but surely improved for two weeks after the conflict-resolution. It was evident to all how much more active he had become in attempting to first crawl, then stand up, and finally to walk. He took his first small steps about 6 or 7 weeks after that, using a small doll-carriage for support. His progress was so rapid that he was soon walking confidently on his own without falling very much.

Now two-and-a-half years old, he had a normal development for his age-group, as attested to by current medical exams.

... If nothing had changed, we would most likely now have a child that had been diagnosed with "Multiple Sclerosis" by a well-meaning but ignorant physician. It is hard to put into words just how happy we are that we have learned German New Medicine and were thus able to apply this knowledge to our son.

It is almost impossible to comprehend the extent of Dr. Hamer's discoveries. We tip our hat to this man and his perseverance. Many, many thanks, Dr. Hamer!

René, father of 5 children

Translated from the German original by Caroline Markolin, Ph.D.

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