

Case #6: Autism/Asperger's Coupled with Depression and Digestive Disorders: Presentation, Diagnosis and Applications of Functional Neurology

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Methods

A comprehensive neurological examination was done, using standard neurological tests and diagnostics including VNG, computerized dynamic posturography, tremorscopic testing. VOR was absent, pursuits irregular with saccadic intrusions, positive Moro, Spinal Galant, and ATNR reflexes, positive dual tasking (freezing), poor memory and cognition, very emotional and angry, posterior center of pressure (PCOP). The patient had balance and incoordination issues. She also had slow saccadic movements in various planes, and aberrant vertical to horizontal optokinetic.

A slow systemic Functional Neurology approach was implemented using various visual, auditory, vestibular, sensory and motor applications, brain based activities, cerebellar activation, complex therapeutic activities, home instructions and dietary changes.

Results

The patient's VOR was restored to normal within the first 2 days of treatment. In two weeks the patient verbal communication and eye contact improved 85% and was able to digest better. Functional Neurology addresses different faulty pathways which lead to brain plasticity. It's been diagnostically determined that through specific and gradual applications in Functional Neurology the patient's depression disorder, Autistic/Asperger's spectrum is resolved. Today, the patient enjoys normal life with her family and friends, is interested in art and has composed and presented our facility with a fine artistic portrait of the brain.

Background and Aims

The patient is a 14-year-old female who presents with long-standing history of depression, anxiety, lack of focus, anger, seclusion, eating disorder, fatigue, no motivation, and repetitive patterns of behavior. The patient's parents reported that their daughter can stay in her room for days without any interaction with them or her brother and sister. They said that her family doctor put her on Tylenol since 2011. They parents were extremely concerned and bewildered regarding their daughter's condition.

