

CHIROPRACTIC, FUNCTIONAL NEUROLOGY, AND THE MANAGEMENT OF A PATIENT WITH MULTIPLE CONCUSSIVE INJURIES- A CASE STUDY

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Background

A 43-year-old male presented to the clinic with a 20- year-history of symptoms related to multiple concussive injuries. The initial clinical impression was of post-concussive syndrome presenting as dizziness, concentration, focus and cognitive difficulties, photophobia, phonophobia and agoraphobic tendencies.

Methods

Functional neurologic exam revealed a right head tilt, ocular dysmetria, inability to track objects, a loss of vestibulo-ocular reflex to the right, left pyramidal weakness, decreased joint position sense in the lower extremity, inability to stand with eyes closed, and withdrawal to auditory and light stimuli. Lateral cervical x-rays showed a decrease in cervical lordosis and AP lateral flexion radiographs showed dystaxic movement throughout the cervical spine. Interventions utilized included chiropractic adjustments, static postural corrections, neurotherapeutics, specific use of an off-vertical-axis rotational device, and interactive metronome.

Conclusions

This case demonstrates the effectiveness of chiropractic, functional neurology, and a conservative treatment strategy in the management of a patient with a 20-yearhistory of multiple concussion symptoms.

Results

The patient improved significantly in his ability to tolerate light and sound, oculomotor function, an improved ability to read and perform work on a computer, and elimination of dizziness symptoms. In a follow-up exam there was resolution of pyramidal weakness, joint position sense improved from an average of 28% correct to 94% correct, a 66% improvement.

