

The journal has had 7 points in Ministry of Science and Higher Education parametric evaluation. Part B item 1223 (26/01/2017).
1223 Journal of Education, Health and Sport eISSN 2391-8306 7

© The Authors 2019;

This article is published with open access at Licensee Open Journal Systems of Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz, Poland

Open Access. This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License which permits any noncommercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author(s) and source are credited. This is an open access article licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non commercial license Share alike. (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>) which permits unrestricted, non commercial use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the work is properly cited.

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

Received: 05.08.2019. Revised: 15.08.2019. Accepted: 27.08.2019.

POSTURAL DEFECTS – CORRECT POSTURE, PATHOLOGICAL POSTURE, PATHOGENESIS AND CONSEQUENCES. PART ONE

Piotr Jaworski¹

**1. Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Jan Kochanowski University in Kielce,
Poland**

Corresponding author: jawor19_94@o2.pl

ABSTRACT

Posture defects are a serious social problem. Knowing the correct posture is very important. The first part of the paper presents a description of correct posture and a description of pathological posture, its pathogenesis and side effects.

Keywords: postural defects, correct posture, pathological posture, spine, physiotherapy

INTRODUCTION

Observing the human spine, different curves can be observed on it: cervical lordosis, thoracic kyphosis, lumbar lordosis, sacral kyphosis. Thanks to the above mentioned physiological curves, the spine is almost 20 times more resistant to stress and shocks than the spine, which is devoid of them. The whole system is constructed in such a way that it allows to maintain body masses against gravity with the use of relatively small amount of force. Limited physical activity, sedentary lifestyle, sight defects, ordinary everyday activities such as washing clothes, sitting leaning over a book or in front of a TV/computer, inadequate nutrition, overweight, which is also responsible for overloading the cardiovascular, respiratory, osteoarticular and muscular systems may contribute to an abnormal posture of the body. Broadly understood posture defects in modern society are a very large medical problem (diagnosis and treatment) as well as social, they lead to many disorders in the body. The reason for this is the load transferred from the pelvis and lower limbs through the spine to the upper limbs, torso and head. Most people declare that they know how to take care of their spine properly, but life in a hurry, pursuit of a career, stress, irrational diet and low physical activity do not allow this knowledge to be used in a satisfactory way. There is nothing to suggest that in the future, posture defects will become an increasingly rare problem - quite the contrary. Unfortunately, they are only the beginning of other serious body disorders on the basis of compensation, as well as degenerative and neuromuscular diseases. In many cases, the effects mentioned above act as a disincentive to change their habits, and people prefer to go for "tablets" instead of consulting a physiotherapist and eliminate the cause, not the effect itself. This is a big mistake. The human spine has 3 very important functions called: supporting, cushioning and kinetic. It takes direct part in almost every movement of the body, thanks to the connection of the spine with the head and the pelvis, which is connected with the

lower limbs, which touch the ground. The participation of the spine in upper limb activities is provided by the chest and shoulder strap. That is why it is so important to have a comprehensive approach to the patient by a suitably qualified person - a physiotherapist.

^{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12}

CORRECT POSTURE

Kaczmarek and et al. define the body posture as a system of the whole body during standing position, i.e. a characteristic feature of a human being and his motor habit. Factors that influence body posture include: age, gender, health and well-being, physical activity as well as genetic, environmental and racial predispositions. Moreover, Mrozkowiak defines the correct posture of the body as one that occurs so often that it can be considered characteristic of the population. Normal posture is a characteristic of healthy individuals with normal physical and mental development.^{13, 14}

A well-developed skeletal and ligamentous system, a well-developed and efficient muscular system and a properly functioning nervous system have an influence on the proper posture of the body. The muscles of the neck, chest, abdomen, buttocks, ischium and shin, quadriceps of the thighs and rectifier of the spine are responsible for maintaining the body

1 Bäker B, Reisky P. Bóle i choroby kręgosłupa. AMBER. Warszawa 2001.

2 Kasperekzyk T. Wady postawy ciała. Diagnostyka i leczenie. Kasper. Kraków 1994.

3 Książek-Czekaj A, Wiecheć M. Monitorowanie wyników usprawniania skolioz za pomocą systemu DIERS. Fizjoterapia Polska 2016; 3: 124-134.

4 Madej E, Grabarek E. Wady i zalety współczesnych metod badania postawy ciała wykorzystywanych w badaniach przesiewowych. Kwartalnik Ortopedyczny 2008; 1: 24-30.

5 Muchacka R, Pyclik M. Wady postawy u dzieci i młodzieży – charakterystyka i etiologia. Prace Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Zarządzania i Przedsiębiorczości z siedzibą w Wałbrzychu 2016; 1: 69-83.

6 Niesłuchowski W. Kręgosłup, klucz do zdrowia. Agencja Wydawnicza COMES. Warszawa 1994.

7 Nowotny J, Czupryna K. Podstawy fizjoterapii. Podstawy teoretyczne i wybrane aspekty praktyczne. KASPER. Kraków 2004.

8 Ogonowska – Słodownik A. Rola rehabilitacji w wodzie w zespole bólowym dolnego odcinka kręgosłupa. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2016; 2: 40-43.

9 Umławska W. Wady postawy ciała u dzieci ze schorzeniami narządu wzroku. Niepełnosprawność i Rehabilitacja: kwartalnik Instytutu Rozwoju Służb Społecznych 2008; 2: 77-83.

10 Walicka – Cupryś K, Skalska – Izdebska R. Związek pomiędzy postawą ciała i stabilnością posturalną u dzieci w wieku wczesnoszkolnym. Postępy Rehabilitacji 2013; 27: 47-54.

11 www.medme.pl/choroby/wady-postawy,442.html – 2018.05.11

12 www.tactumsanitas.pl/rehabilitacja-schorzen/ortopedyczna/leczenie-wad-postawy – 2018.05.14

13 Kaczmarek M, Wanat K. Analiza aktywności fizycznej, parametrów antropometrycznych oraz postawy ciała dzieci. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2011; 6: 26-29.

14 Mrozkowiak M. Korekcja, kompensacja i ćwiczenia wyrównawcze wad postawy. Wydawnictwo Edukacyjne Akapit. Toruń 2001.

posture in a standing position.^{15, 16}

The spine of a human being seen in the frontal plane, from the front, forms a straight line. In the sagittal plane, from the side, it forms arched bends. They develop during the growth period. In the sagittal plane four physiological bends can be distinguished: cervical lordosis, thoracic kyphosis, lumbar lordosis, sacral kyphosis. Normal posture is characterized by a straight head position, straight spine in the frontal plane, straight spine in the sagittal plane, and normal bending of the spine in the sagittal plane. Shoulders and shoulder blade angles must be ideally at the same height, and the distance between the angle of the right shoulder blade and the middle line of the spine must be the same as between the angle of the left shoulder blade and the center of the spine. The axillary lines must be identical in shape. In addition, it must have an retracted abdomen, tense gluteal muscles and a suitably inserted pelvis on the head of the femur. It should be symmetrically positioned so that the hip spikes are at one level. Straight lower limbs and correctly shaped, aligned and loaded feet. The height of the hip bones should be the same. When tilting forward, the spinal muscles should be symmetrically enhanced, while the spinal axis (looking backwards) should be perfectly straight.^{17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22}

An important element in the body posture is the pelvis. Physiologically, it is slightly inclined forward. In the sagittal plane it can take on a pathological pattern of tilt and tilt. Pelvic anterior and backward slope depend on the tension of individual muscles. The anterior inclination of the pelvis is caused by muscles that are strengthened (shortened). These include: simple thigh muscle, hip and lumbar muscle, dorsal rectifier muscle and quadrilateral lumbar muscle. The muscles responsible for the backslope of the pelvis (which are strengthened/shortened) include: straight abdomen muscle, oblique external abdomen muscle and internal oblique abdomen muscle, transverse abdomen muscle, gluteus muscle, gluteus

15 Jopkiewicz A, Suliga E. Biomedyczne podstawy rozwoju i wychowania. Instytut Technologii Eksploatacji – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy w Radomiu. Radom – Kielce 2008.

16 Kasperczyk T. Wady postawy ciała. Diagnostyka i leczenie. Kasper. Kraków 1994.

17 Jopkiewicz A, Suliga E. Biomedyczne podstawy rozwoju i wychowania. Instytut Technologii Eksploatacji – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy w Radomiu. Radom – Kielce 2008.

18 Kasperczyk T. Wady postawy ciała. Diagnostyka i leczenie. Kasper. Kraków 1994.

19 Niesłuchowski W. Kręgosłup, klucz do zdrowia. Agencja Wydawnicza COMES. Warszawa 1994.

20 Sowa J. Siedzenie dynamiczne a zespoły bólowe kręgosłupa. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2013; 2: 30-34.

21 www.fabrykasily.pl/porady/wady-postawy-wady-plecow – 2018.05.15

22 www.profesor.pl/publikacja,13033,Referaty,Wady-postawy-ciala-przyczyny-powstawania-profilaktyka – 2018.05.15

muscle, medium and small, as well as sciatica and shin muscles (semi-spongiform muscle, semimembranosus muscle, adductor muscle and double-headed thigh muscle).²³

Formation of a proper posture depends on a well-developed and efficient muscular system and a well-developed osseous and ligamentous system, as well as a well-functioning nervous system.²⁴

PATHOLOGICAL POSTURE, PATHOGENESIS AND CONSEQUENCES

Postural defects are a deviation from the generally accepted standards of correct posture parameters, which are characteristic of age, gender and type of construction. Postural defects can be divided into congenital and acquired defects. Postural defects occur most frequently during childhood and adolescence. They concern changes in the trunk and lower limbs.²⁵

Kaczmarek et al. describes a body posture defect as a deviation from the norm, which should be corrected actively or passively. Mrozkowiak, on the other hand, describes it as a deviation from the characteristics of a normal posture, which have been generally accepted for gender, age and body build. Wilczyński, unifying various definitions, stated that "(...) Defects of posture are changes in an upright, free position of the body, which definitely differ from attitudes typical for a given gender, age, constitutional structure and race. Postural defects are the result of pathological changes and may occur in all planes of the body, manifested mainly by changes in the shape of the spine and body sections directly related to it. (...)"^{26,27,28}

Forced pathological posture, which lasts for a long period of time (e.g. during professional activities of dentists), is a major factor that contributes to overloading of the entire spine, especially the cervical spine. Shallow or abolished cervical lordosis causes static loads, which contribute to the disturbance of normal spine biomechanics, affecting the faster emergence of overload and degenerative changes. Overloading of the spine results in

23 Kasperek T. Wady postawy ciała. Diagnostyka i leczenie. Kasper. Kraków 1994.

24 Milanowska K. Wady postawy. W: Rehabilitacja medyczna. Red. Dega W, Milanowska K. Państwowy Zakład Wydawnictw Lekarskich. Warszawa 1983; 271-285.

25 www.leksykonmasazu.pl/slowko/wady-postawy/63 – 2017.10.20

26 Kaczmarek M, Wanat K. Analiza aktywności fizycznej, parametrów antropometrycznych oraz postawy ciała dzieci. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2011; 6: 26-29.

27 Mrozkowiak M. Korekcja, kompensacja i ćwiczenia wyrównawcze wad postawy. Wydawnictwo Edukacyjne Akapit. Toruń 2001.

28 Wilczyński J. Korekcja wad postawy człowieka. Anthropos. Starachowice 2005.

pathological deviations in the sagittal plane of the spine, which result in the reduction or deepening of its physiological curvature. They cause postural defects depending on the place of occurrence. These may include round back - formed by deepened thoracic kyphosis, concave back - formed by deepened lumbar lordosis, round concave back - by deepened thoracic kyphosis and lumbar lordosis, flat back - with no physiological bends in the spine. These pathologies result in functional dysfunctions and spinal pain syndromes.^{29,30}

Rakowski writes that the occurrence of deformations in the sagittal plane is a characteristic feature of the so-called natural curvature of the spine. Deformations include: excessive bending and hypertrophy and flattening in the cervical, thoracic and lumbar sections of the spine. Abnormal static balance of muscles usually contributes to spinal distortions, e.g. excessively tense flexors together with relaxation and weakening of rectifiers. Distortion of the natural curves of the spine is a very common result of overloading the soft tissues. Other disorders that may affect the occurrence of deformities in the sagittal plane are disorders not related to patient-dependent causes, e.g. injuries, organic diseases of the nervous system, bones and muscles, congenital and developmental tendencies.³¹

In 1979 Vladimir Janda was the first to describe hypotonia and muscle hypertension, described as a disproportion of muscle tension. According to Janda's theory, the cause of chronic pain may be the disproportion of tensions of individual muscle groups. Chronic pain is the result of a protective response of muscles whose antagonists are characterized by reduced tension. Such a response is characteristic only for specific muscle groups. On this basis, Janda distinguished two syndromes concerning muscular tension disorders. The first one is the upper crossing syndrome, which concerns the muscles in the cervical and thoracic segments of the spine and shoulder girdle. The second is the lower crosssection syndrome, which concerns the muscles in the lumbar and sacral sections of the spine together with the muscles forming the pelvic rim. For example, a disorder in the cervical and thoracic spine causes a closed silhouette. The shoulders are raised and the shoulder bone is placed in the frontal position, the shoulder blades are protruding, the thoracic kyphosis is increased and the head is placed in the prostration. In some women,

29 Kopacz Ł, Leitz – Kijak D. Zastosowanie metody fizjoterapeutycznej Kinesiology Taping w leczeniu dolegliwości bólowych odcinka szyjnego kręgosłupa wśród młodych stomatologów. Fizjoterapia Polska 2015; 3: 36-44.

30 Sowa J. Siedzenie dynamiczne a zespoły bólowe kręgosłupa. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2013; 2: 30-34.

31 Rakowski A. Kręgosłup w stresie. Gdańskie Wydawnictwo Psychologiczne. Gdańsk 2002.

so-called widow's hump is formed as a result of the accumulation of fat at the cervical and thoracic passages. The treatment of muscular pains in the cervical and thoracic spine should include hypertonic muscles (the larger and smaller thoracic muscle, the upper quadriceps muscle, the scapular jack muscle, the widest dorsal muscle and the bridge, nipple and clavicle muscles) and hypotonic muscles (the middle and lower quadrilateral muscles, the anterior toothed muscle, deep neck flexors and parallelogram muscles).³²

Backbone stabilization problems contribute to abnormal biomechanics and rotation axes due to loaded intervertebral discs and intervertebral joints. As a result, cracks and erosions of the cartilage surfaces of the joints are formed, causing their pathological hypertrophy. Articular sacs and ligaments are calcified and fibrous, which results in their reduced elasticity.³³

Disturbed body statics is a characteristic element of posture defects. Static disturbances can result in the transfer of the body's centre of gravity and imbalance. However, scientific research does not clearly indicate the influence of postural stability on posture in all planes.^{34, 35}

REFERENCES

1. Bäker B, Reisky P. Bóle i choroby kręgosłupa. AMBER. Warszawa 2001.
2. Jopkiewicz A, Suliga E. Biomedyczne podstawy rozwoju i wychowania. Instytut Technologii Eksplotacji – Państwowy Instytut Badawczy w Radomiu. Radom – Kielce 2008.
3. Kaczmarek M, Wanat K. Analiza aktywności fizycznej, parametrów antropometrycznych oraz postawy ciała dzieci. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2011; 6: 26-29.
4. Kasperekzyk T. Wady postawy ciała. Diagnostyka i leczenie. Kasper. Kraków 1994.

32 Kruszyna J, Świtoń A. Postępowanie fizjoterapeutyczne w bólach pochodzenia mięśniowego w odcinku szyjno – piersiowym kręgosłupa. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2016; 4: 8-12.

33 Szymel K, Witke – Woźniak A. Analiza skuteczności wybranych ćwiczeń metodą Feldenkraisa w leczeniu zespołów bólowych odcinka szyjnego kręgosłupa. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2016; 5: 49-53.

34 Olczak A. Jak zinterpretować zaburzenie równowagi ciała. Rehabilitacja w praktyce 2016; 4: 13.

35 Walicka – Cupryś K, Skalska – Izdebska R. Związek pomiędzy postawą ciała i stabilnością posturalną u dzieci w wieku wczesnoszkolnym. Postępy Rehabilitacji 2013; 27: 47-54.

5. Kopacz Ł, Leitz – Kijak D. Zastosowanie metody fizjoterapeutycznej Kinesiologii Taping w leczeniu dolegliwości bólowych odcinka szyjnego kręgosłupa wśród młodych stomatologów. *Fizjoterapia Polska* 2015; 3: 36-44.
6. Kruszyna J, Świtoń A. Postępowanie fizjoterapeutyczne w bólach pochodzenia mięśniowego w odcinku szyjno – piersiowym kręgosłupa. *Rehabilitacja w praktyce* 2016; 4: 8-12.
7. Książek-Czekaj A, Wiecheć M. Monitorowanie wyników usprawniania skolioz za pomocą systemu DIERS. *Fizjoterapia Polska* 2016; 3: 124-134.
8. Madej E, Grabarek E. Wady i zalety współczesnych metod badania postawy ciała wykorzystywanych w badaniach przesiewowych. *Kwartalnik Ortopedyczny* 2008; 1: 24-30.
9. Milanowska K. Wady postawy. W: *Rehabilitacja medyczna*. Red. Dega W, Milanowska K. Państwowy Zakład Wydawnictw Lekarskich. Warszawa 1983; 271-285.
10. Mrozkowiak M. Korekcja, kompensacja i ćwiczenia wyrównawcze wad postawy. Wydawnictwo Edukacyjne Akapit. Toruń 2001.
11. Muchacka R, Pyclik M. Wady postawy u dzieci i młodzieży – charakterystyka i etiologia. *Prace Naukowe Wyższej Szkoły Zarządzania i Przedsiębiorczości z siedzibą w Wałbrzychu* 2016; 1: 69-83.
12. Niesłuchowski W. Kręgosłup, klucz do zdrowia. Agencja Wydawnicza COMES. Warszawa 1994.
13. Nowotny J, Czupryna K. Podstawy fizjoterapii. Podstawy teoretyczne i wybrane aspekty praktyczne. KASPER. Kraków 2004.
14. Ogonowska – Słodownik A. Rola rehabilitacji w wodzie w zespole bólowym dolnego odcinka kręgosłupa. *Rehabilitacja w praktyce* 2016; 2: 40-43.
15. Olczak A. Jak zinterpretować zaburzenie równowagi ciała. *Rehabilitacja w praktyce* 2016; 4: 13.
16. Rakowski A. Kręgosłup w stresie. Gdańskie Wydawnictwo Psychologiczne. Gdańsk 2002.
17. Sowa J. Siedzenie dynamiczne a zespoły bólowe kręgosłupa. *Rehabilitacja w praktyce* 2013; 2: 30-34.

18. Szymel K, Witke – Woźniak A. Analiza skuteczności wybranych ćwiczeń metodą Feldenkraisa w leczeniu zespołów bólowych odcinka szyjnego kręgosłupa. *Rehabilitacja w praktyce* 2016; 5: 49-53.
19. Umławska W. Wady postawy ciała u dzieci ze schorzeniami narządu wzroku. *Niepełnosprawność i Rehabilitacja: kwartalnik Instytutu Rozwoju Służb Społecznych* 2008; 2: 77-83.
20. Walicka – Cupryś K, Skalska – Izdebska R. Związek pomiędzy postawą ciała i stabilnością posturalną u dzieci w wieku wczesnoszkolnym. *Postępy Rehabilitacji* 2013; 27: 47-54.
21. Wilczyński J. Korekcja wad postawy człowieka. *Anthropos*. Starachowice 2005.
22. www.fabrykasily.pl/porady/wady-postawy-wady-plecow – 2018.05.15
23. www.leksykonmasazu.pl/slowko/wady-postawy/63 – 2017.10.20
24. www.medme.pl/choroby/wady-postawy,442.html – 2018.05.11
25. www.profesor.pl/publikacja,13033,Referaty,Wady-postawy-ciala-przyczyny-powstawania-profilaktyka – 2018.05.15
26. www.tactumsanitas.pl/rehabilitacja-schorzen/ortopedyczna/leczenie-wad-postawy/ – 2018.05.14