# Assessment of Fitness in Cerebral Palsy

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## Physical Fitness

A set of attributes
that people have or
achieve relating to
their ability to
perform physical
activity

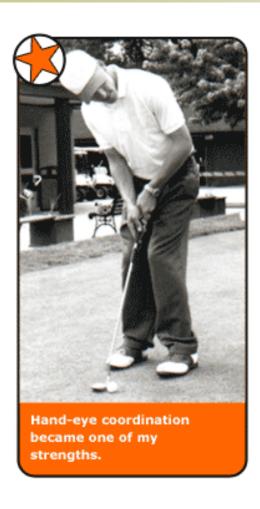


## Health Related Physical Fitness

- CardiorespiratoryEndurance
- Muscular Strength
- MuscularEndurance
- Body Composition
- Flexibility



## Skill Related Physical Fitness



- Agility
- Balance
- Coordination
- Power
- Speed
- Reaction Time

# Physiologic Physical Fitness

- Metabolic
- Morphologic
- Bone Integrity

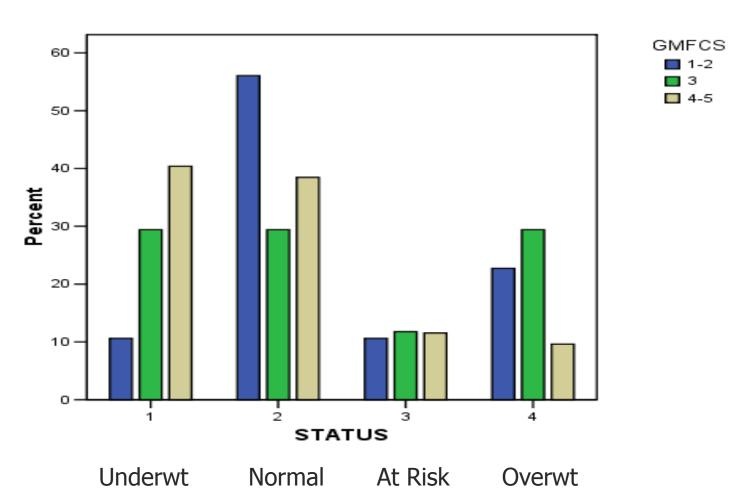


# Obesity in CP

- GMFCS III-V—poor growth
  - Stevenson et al., Pediatrics 2006: 118:1010-1018
- GMFCS I-II
  - Van der Slot et al, Disability and Rehabilitation 2007: 29:179-189
    - Men had lower body fat than controls based on skinfolds

### BMI in CP

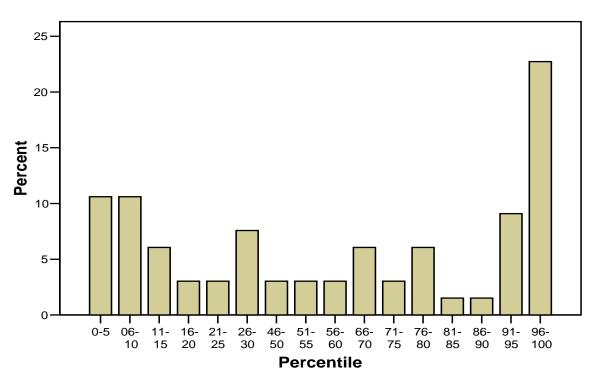
Figure 2. Weight status by GMFCS level



## BMI, GMFCS I-II

Figure 1. Distribution of Percentiles for





#### **University of Michigan**

**General Clinical Research Center** Ann Arbor, MI 48109

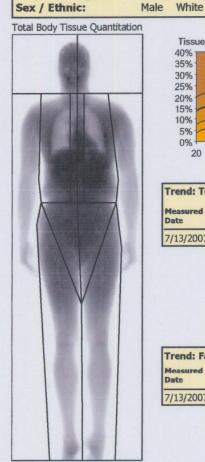
Patient: **Birth Date: Height / Weight:**  10-101 4/18/1962 45.2 years

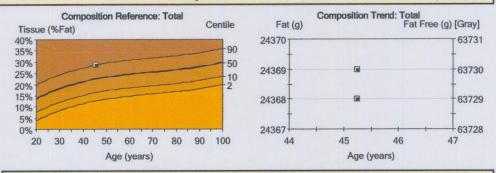
75.0 in. 196.0 lbs.

Facility ID:

Referring Physician: 2137-Dr. Hurvitz

8:52:58 AM Measured: 7/13/2007 (10.51)(10.51)7/13/2007 9:27:38 AM Analyzed:



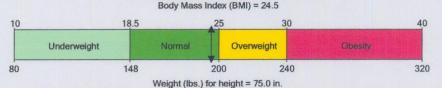


Trend: Total											
Measured Date	Age (years)	Tissue (%Fat)	Centile 2,3	T.Mass (kg)	Region (%Fat)	Tissue (g)	Fat (g)	Lean (g)	BMC (g)	Fat Free (g)	
7/13/2007	45.2	28.7	91	88.1	27.7	84,928	24,369	60,559	3,169	63,729	

Trend: Fat Distribution										
Measured Date	Age (years)	Android (%Fat)	Gynoid (%Fat)	A/G Ratio	Total Body (%Fat)					
7/13/2007	45.2	39.4	32.4	1.22	28.7					

COMMENTS:

#### World Health Organization BMI Classification



# Challenges of Measurement Body Composition

- BMI
- Height Measurement
- Accuracy vs.Simplicity





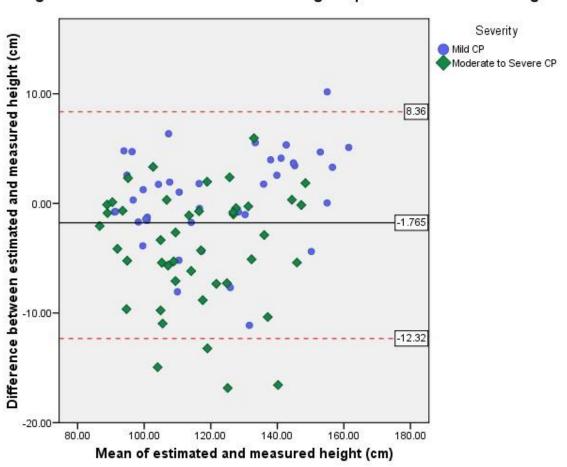
# Segmental Measures





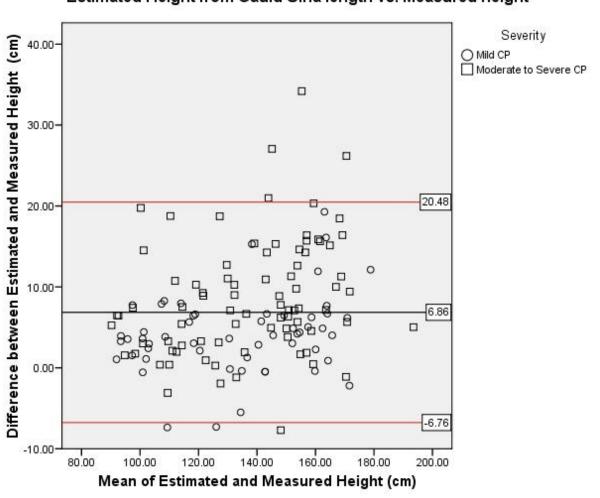
## Estimation of Height with Knee Heights

#### Height estimated from Stevenson knee height equation vs. Measured Height



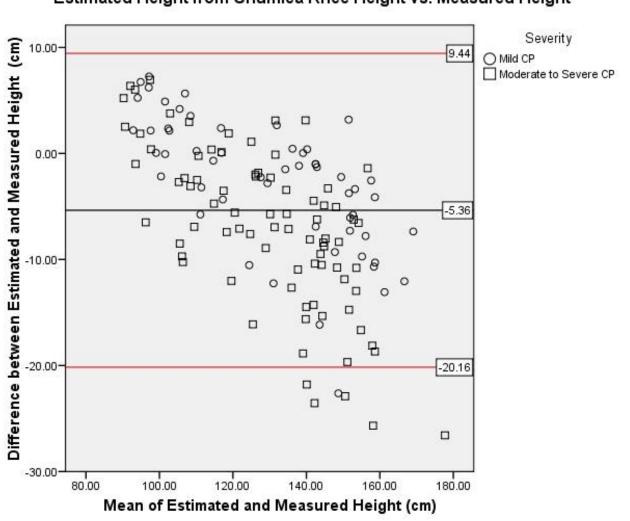
# -Height Estimation with Ulna Length

#### Estimated Height from Gauld Ulna length vs. Measured height



# Knee Height, Equation for Non-CP

#### Estimated Height from Chumlea Knee Height vs. Measured Height



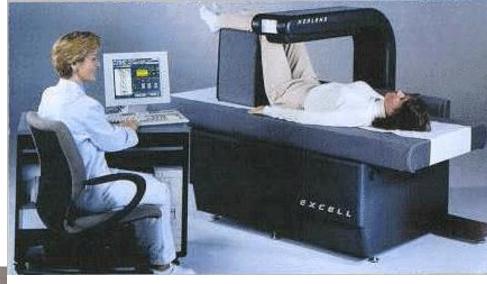
# Measuring Body Composition

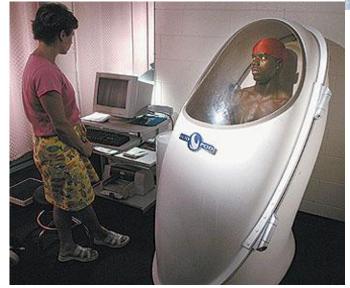




More Advanced









# **Aerobic Capacity**

- Lundberg, DMCN 1978 20:205-210
  - Lower level of fitness (HR response, O2 uptake
- Tobimatsu et al, APMR 1998 79:991-3
  - Peak VO2 not different from controls
- Fernandez and Pitetti, multiple
  - Poor level of aerobic fitness, but responds to exercise

# Challenges of Measurement Aerobic Capacity

- Use of equipment
  - Varied population, varied ability
- Attaining VO2 max
  - Max vs. Peak

# **Exercise Testing**







# Physical Activity in CP

- Van der Slot et al, Disability and Rehabilitation 2007: 29:179-189
  - Hemiplegic CP, no difference from controls
- Maher et al, DMCN 2007:450-7
  - Adolescents, PAQ-A, Less activity, less structured, lower intensity

# Physical Acitivity in CP

- Maltais et al, Med Sci Sport Ex 2005 37:347-353
  - Energy cost of walking predicts physical activity
- Bandini et al, Pediatric Research 1991 29:70-77
  - Adolescents, decreased TEE/RMR and FFM

# Challenges of Measurement Physical Activity

- Many surveys
  - Reliance on memory
  - Bias
- Activity monitors/Accelerometers
- Double labeled water

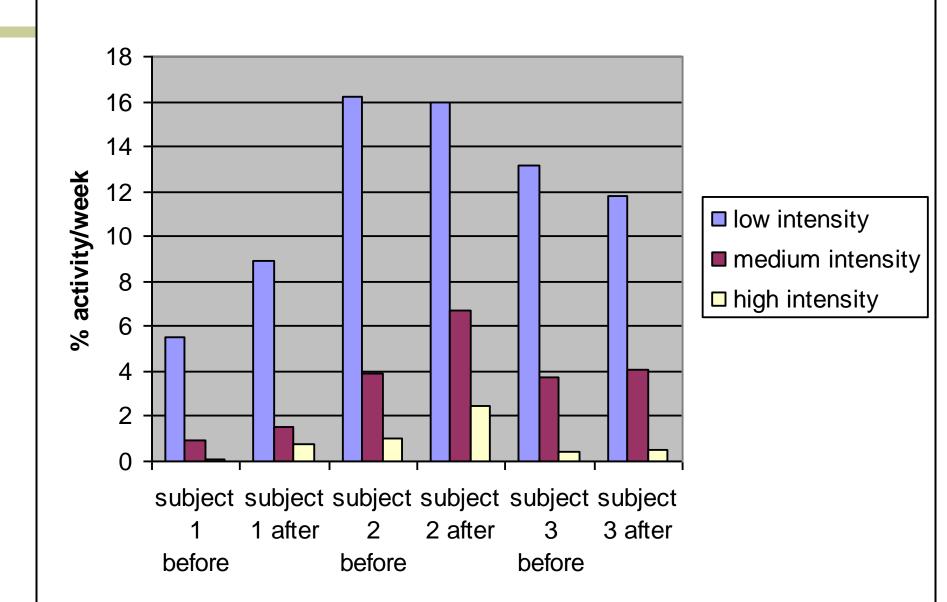
## Accelerometers





- Activity counts
- Activity levels
- Subject input
- IDEAA—describes activity

Figure 5. Activity intensity before and after rhizotomy



## Strength

- Damiano et al, multiple
  - Children with cerebral palsy are weak, and can get stronger with exercise
  - They benefit functionally from this as well
- Macphail et al, DMCN 1995 37:763-775
  - Adolescents benefit from strengthening
- Ross and Engsberg, APMR 88:1114-20
  - Children-strength influences gait more than spasticity

# Challenges of Measurement Strength

### MMT

- Isolation of movement
- Reliability and technique
- HandheldDynamometer
  - Reliability and technique
- Biodex
  - Difficult to have in





# -CPOP: Cerebral Palsy Outcomes Project

- Objective: To study relationships between Health / Fitness and Participation / QOL
- Model
  - Multisite—large population (500 from 6 sites)
  - Clinic based—less complex measures
  - Highly feasible assessment
  - Internet based data collection

### Fitness Assessment

- Body Compositon
  - Height (Knee Height), Weight
  - Triceps Skin fold
  - Mid-Arm Circumference
  - Waist circumference
- Aerobic Fitness
  - Walk test—3 vs. 5 vs. 6 minutes

### Fitness Assesment

- Flexibility
  - Modified Apley test
  - Popliteal angle
  - Thomas test
- Strength
  - Hand held dynamometer—knee extension
  - Grip strength dynamometer

### Summary

- Physical Fitness in Cerebral Palsy
  - On the research agenda
- Challenges of Assesment
  - Difficulties with standard assessments
  - Search for solutions
- Identifying the issues
  - Multisite clinic based study
  - Pave the way for more elegant studies