

The development of physiotherapy as an independent profession – a theory model and its integration into education

Estoril, Portugal, 2004
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- Purpose of this model (Hüter-Becker, 1997)
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paediatric physiotherapy for undergraduate
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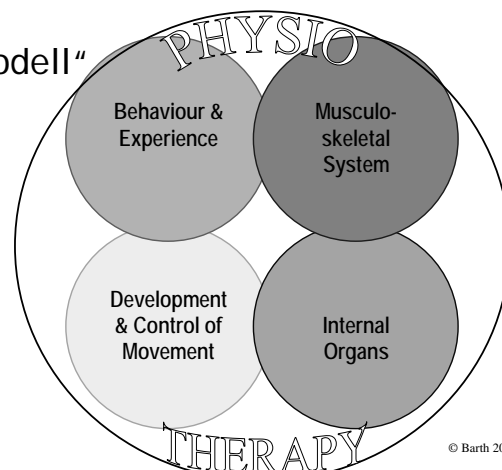
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Purpose of a model in physiotherapy

- Physiotherapy in Germany is still a
“medical assistant profession“
- The development of physiotherapy as an
independent profession requires a
reference model

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„Neues Denkmodell“



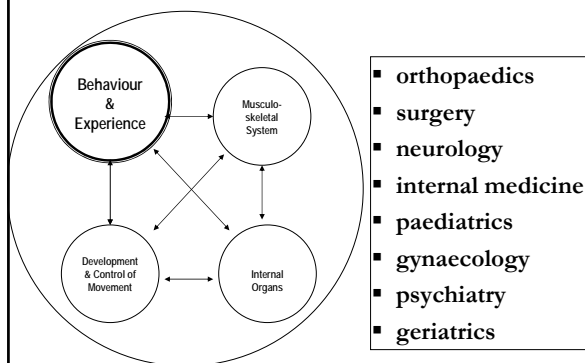
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Purpose of this model

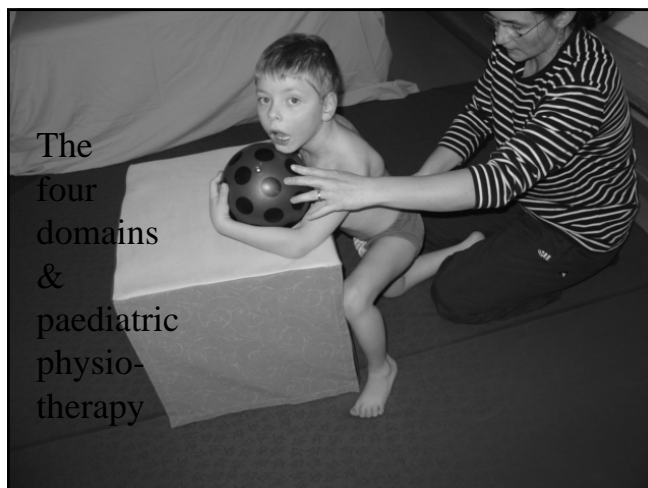
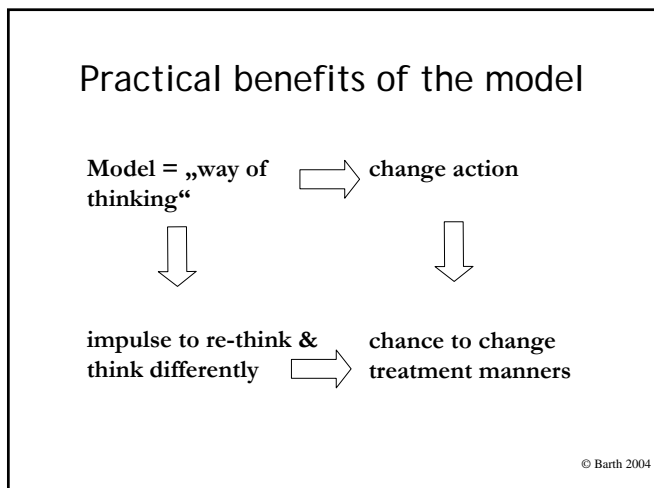
- Physiotherapy ≠ medicine
- Holistic view: patient, disease, therapy
⇒ Symptoms, not diagnoses
- Effective assessment & treatment
- Simplicity & flexibility

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The model vs traditional education

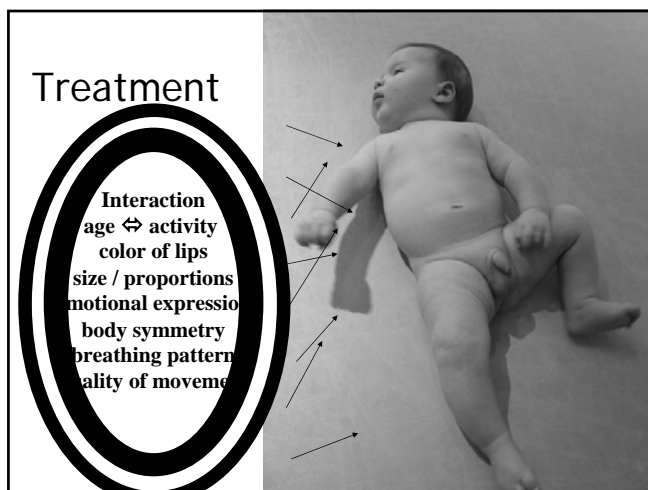
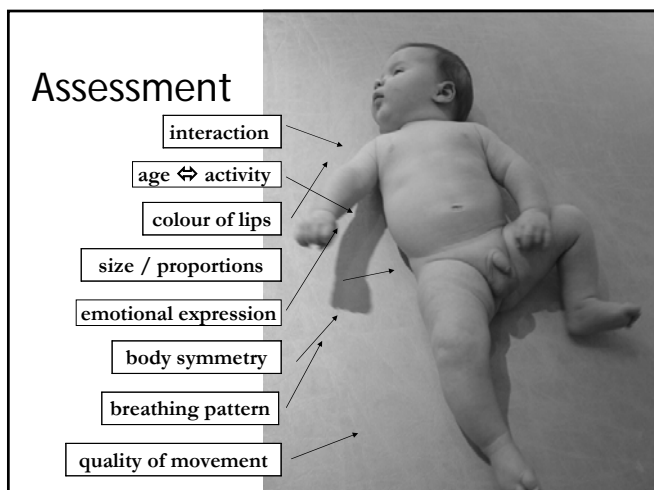


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- ### Paediatrics - a network of disciplines
- „Paediatrics“ = neurology, orthopaedics, surgery, cardiorespiratory medicine, ...
 - Closer link between domains
 - Importance of „experience & behaviour“
- \Rightarrow Good starting point
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- ### Take-off ...
- METHODS**
- Theoretical education: Case examples
 - Practical education: Treatment of patients
- AIMS**
- Carry out holistic assessment
 - Identify key problems
 - Perform holistic treatment
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Observations

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Students' Performance

Unequal distribution amongst the 4 domains

1. **Musculoskeletal system**
highest competence
2. **Internal organs**
competence but less than 1.
3. **Development & control of movement**
caution; little transfer to other domains
4. **Experience & behaviour**
observation; insufficient analysis / action

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Interpretation of Observations

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• Extensive anatomy & physiology of the musculoskeletal system

• Extensive anatomy & physiology of the cardiorespiratory system

• Tests: strength, endurance, range of motion, muscle length, ...

• Complexity of domain

• Few modules discussing: impact of sickness & disability, psychology, interaction with the patient

• Lack of methods & techniques

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Conclusions

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Does the model live up to its expectations?

Holistic view	Reasons difficult to evaluate
Effective Assessment & Treatment	Curriculum
Simplicity & Flexibility	Positive outcome

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Conclusions

- **Development of curriculum & education**
- **Development of the model**
- **Evaluation system**
- **Development of the profession**

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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