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Norms for Gross Motor Development in Egyptian Toddlers: Pilot Study

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Abstract : Background: Peabody developmental motor scale is one of the most commonly used scales for assessment of motor developmental domain in preschool children; the Peabody is a reliable and valid tool to assess gross motor skills. In this study, the applied Peabody Developmental Motor Scale Second Edition (PDMS-2) could provide a general gross motor developmental framework for Egyptian children. Objectives: to establish norms for the Egyptian' toddlers in gross motor developmental variables through cross-sectional study design using PDMS-2 and comparing the results with the normative sample given in the PDMS-2 manual to find a method of evaluation that might be suitable for Egyptian toddlers. Methods: Normal healthy 80 children assigned into two groups in sequence according to their chronological age: group A (39 child) aged from 25 to 30 months and group B (41 child) from 31 to 36 months, after screening by Portage Scale through five nursery schools in Cairo governorate, Egypt whom scored at least 80%. Evaluation using PDMS-2 was applied once monthly to each group for successive six months in gross motor area of development through cross-sectional study design. Results: The present study revealed statistical significant difference for measured subtest items of gross motor development in this specific age when compared with the normative data using Z-scores. Conclusion: the study reflects that the development of Egyptian toddlers differs from normative sample of PDMS-2 in gross motor development subtest items, so detection of these differences in gross motor development illustrates the importance to have norms for the Egyptian children development to be a national reference for all staff working in pediatric physical therapy.

Key Words: Egyptian toddlers; gross Motor development; portage scale; Peabody Developmental motor scale-2.

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