## Therapeutic games

Conducting the development of multiply damaged children aged 1 – 6

For many years neonates and toddlers with injury of the central nervous system were considered incurable.

In the last few years great interest has been shown in the research of possible treatment of these infants. It has become obvious that the earlier the treatment starts (as early as a few weeks of age) the greater the chances for the improvement.

Nevertheless, in some cases the therapy can start only in childhood, either because the diagnosis was not established early enough or because the severe disease of the central nervous system requires a prolonged treatment.

Hungary has a distinguished position in the treatment of people with movement disorder. There are famous institutes with outstanding specialists, physicians, conductors, and specialists in curative gymnastics, treating and supervising infants and children. It is not surprising that this book describes a novel therapeutic method proposed by one of those specialists.

Elisabeth Tunyogi studied and worked in the Pető Institute, and worked with Professor Katona at the Section of Developmental Neurology and Neurohabilitation. She had an opportunity to observe the neurosymptoms displayed in infancy and by toddlers with an injury of the central nervous system. During her work she managed to get personal experience in treating these children. The infants can be treated by the mother, with the supervision of a specialist. However, later on there is a usual problem of the child wanting to do something other than he is asked to and resisting the prescribed therapy, which he takes as contradictory to his own will. Game situation is the only one he is willing to take part in. This is what makes Elisabeth Tunyogi's method so important; she builds a therapy on game situations, thus causing the children as little frustration as possible, and considerably increasing the possibility of their treatment as well as their learning ability. These qualities explain the significant results obtained by the author even in the case of multiply defected children.

The book can be recommended to all specialists and parents treating multiply defected children.

Dr. Mária Balázs
paediatrician, paediatric neurologist

71

75