Evaluation and therapy of children in accordance with motor development and orofacial disorders

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Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	University of Health and Sport Sciences in Wroclaw
Enrollment	400 participants

Plain Language Summary

How a baby moves and feeds in their earliest days of life gives important clues about their neurological development. For babies born prematurely, with Down syndrome, or at risk of cerebral palsy, early detection of movement difficulties can open the door to earlier therapy and better long-term outcomes.

This Polish study closely observes and compares movement patterns, muscle tone, and feeding behaviours in newborns at neurological risk alongside healthy newborns. By understanding the links between early movement quality and orofacial function (the mouth and jaw area), researchers hope to develop better assessment tools and therapeutic approaches for infants who need support from the very earliest stages of life.

This study involves babies from shortly after birth up to 3 years of age. The participant group includes babies born at 38–42 weeks gestation who are at risk due to prematurity, Down syndrome, or cerebral palsy risk, plus healthy newborns as a control group. Babies whose difficulties stem from birth trauma (such as shaken baby syndrome) or exposure to alcohol, smoking, or drugs during pregnancy are not eligible.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (2)

- Participant group: babies risk of cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, prematurely born, and newborn from physiological pregnancies, between 38 and 42 weeks of gestation, with Apgar scores of 8-10 points.
- Control group: Healthy babies.

Exclusion (1)

- Children at risk for neurological damage resulting from mechanical birth injuries (e.g., shaken baby syndrome) or pregnancies disrupted by fetal chemical abuse (alcohol, smoking, drugs).

Locations (1 total)

Lower Silesia, Poland