

FORWARD MARCH
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Delayed Milestones in Children

INTRODUCTION

Child development encompasses a series of biological, psychological and emotional change from birth to the adolescence. These changes are vital as they are the building blocks, important milestones in individual growth. It is a journey of development from dependency to autonomy, immaturity to maturity. Developmental changes are strongly influenced by genetic factors, event during & after pregnancy, vaccination & environmental factors.

DEVELOPMENTAL CHANGES

A child passes through various phenomenal physical & psychological changes. Some age-related development periods and examples of defined intervals are:

PHYSICAL

- 1 0-1 year – Infant –neck holding, dentition & sitting & crawling & standing.
- 2 1-3 year Toddler – walking, talking, and toilet training.
- 3 4-6 – free Schooler.
- 4 6-13 – School aged.
- 5 13-20 – Adolescence.

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. 0-6 month-totally Dependent.
2. 6-18 moths-doing stage-touching, tasting looking & distancing.
3. 18-3 years- thinking stage.
4. 3-6 years- Self-awareness & imagination normal but challenging behaviour.
5. 6-12 years- the stage for limits & structure.
6. 13-20 years-the puberty.

Lot of unconditional Love, Encouragement, understanding care and freedom on the part of parents are the foundation of the individual. It is the parent's duty to provide the nurturing environments to the child for his optimum development.

CAUSES

The above mentioned age related development period of defined interval are the milestones, indicator of the right path for the journey. Due to certain subversive forces and limiting factors these milestones can be delayed or arrested. Few have summarised below:

- a. Severe or constant fright, stress, illness, and the exposure of radiations experienced by mother during pregnancy.
- b. There may be injury to the brain from trauma or infection or even as a reaction to a vaccination. Birth trauma to the head during birth or asphyxia, such as occurs when the umbilical cord is wrapped around the neck, preventing adequate oxygen from reaching the brain.

- c. Childhood conditions are unstimulating or neglectful, resulting in slow development both physically and mentally/emotionally.
- d. Children are damaged by media bombardment at very tender age. Increasingly graphic descriptions of terror and violence via movies, television, videos, games, science fiction horror books, and other frightening things promoted by media culture, exposing them when they have not yet learned to discriminate well between fantasy and reality. At a very tender young age they see violent and scary things often think of them as real and that becomes a stress for them.
- e. Others are genetic, vaccination, exposure of radiation (via mobile), and ill-treatment of childhood illnesses.

HOMOEOPATHY

Health is harmonious, tuned function of the self sustaining vital force which vivifies the life in health as well in disease. The sole cause of disease is the individual, and disease is the outward manifestation of the internal deranged vital force expressed by signs and symptoms. External so called morbid factors are only the precipitating factors, and everyone reacts to them differently as per his susceptibility, for example the variation symptom in two siblings born and brought in the same environment, one ***appears dull and relatively unresponsive to stimulation. Milestones such as smiling, standing and walking are delayed, as are subsequent complex skills such as talking, writing and social development;*** and the other one may have ***normal physique and intelligence, but have difficulties with speech, writing or social interaction.*** Homeopathy deals with this individuality and cures. It would not be out of place to quote -

The doctor who prescribes correctly turns the vital state into order. He cures the patient, and the patient, being in a state of order, commences to repair his body, and the tissues go through a general house cleaning, and such things as are not needed are dispensed with; and the physician is considered a wonderful man- famous Homoeopath Dr. Kent.

Thus homeopathy helps the child to attain his optimum by improving his or her psychological limiting elements fears, phobia, anxieties, insecurities and physical sufferings.

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