

26<sup>th</sup> August 2005

**Tamsin COLLEY    DOB 10/9/02**

Tamsin Colley has continued to attend weekly private physiotherapy in addition to services provided by Sydney Children's Hospital. Tamsin carries out a home therapy programme targeting motor skills each week.

### **General Observations**

Tamsin enjoys her therapy sessions and participates fully. Over the past few months she has gained confidence in her abilities. In particular, Tamsin has become more comfortable with falling onto her bottom and will more often get up and continue walking rather than resorting to crawling. Tamsin enjoys challenges and will strive hard to complete interesting tasks.

### **Motor Control**

Tamsin predominantly used her left hand to play today. She occasionally neglected her right hand, at times reaching across her body to use her left hand. She had difficulty shaping her hand, particularly her right when reaching. Her fine grip was less precise than it has been in the past. She lacked full opposition of her thumb and fingers, trapping small objects between the sides of her fingers and her thumb rather than holding them in a precise pincer grasp. She demonstrated some tremor in both hands today. Her competency has improved in many tasks which she has practised consistently while the quality of her performance has not demonstrated the same gains.

Tamsin is now able to stand from the floor unassisted and walk 4-5 steps. Her base of support is very wide and the placement of her right foot is imprecise. At times she still holds her weight too far back on her heels and often falls backwards, though she is able to flex at her hips as she falls, landing safely on her bottom most of the time. Tamsin is now able to walk much longer distances unassisted, though she really achieves this by walking 4-5 steps and stopping to regain her balance before continuing.

**Impression**

Tamsin has made some pleasing gains in the activities she has practised. These gains do not seem to be continuing to generalise to activities she has not practised (ie her overall balance has not changed significantly). Many of the gains that Tamsin has made appear to be a result of her compensating effectively for her physical limitations rather than actual neurological recovery (eg walking 4-5 steps and then stopping). I am concerned that Tamsin is neglecting her right hand more in recent weeks.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this assessment.

Regards,

Eileen O'Neill  
Physiotherapist  
Learn Movement P/L