

A connective tissue disorder may underlie ESSENCE problems in childhood

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© 2016 Elsevier Ltd Background Ehlers-Danlos syndrome hypermobility type, also known as Joint Hypermobility Syndrome (EDS-HT/JHS), is the most common hereditary disorder of the connective tissue (HDCT). It is characterized by tissue fragility, joint hypermobility and a wide range of articular and non-articular manifestations, which often appear in infancy. The clinical picture of EDS-HT/JHS is poorly known by the medical community, as is the presence of ?ESSENCE? (Early Symptomatic Syndromes Eliciting Neurodevelopmental Clinical Examinations) problems in affected children. Aim The present work reviews the clinical and empirical evidence for ESSENCE difficulties in children with EDS-HT/JHS. Method A narrative review of the literature was undertaken following a comprehensive search of scientific online databases and reference lists. This included publications of quantitative and qualitative research. Results Motor abnormality, hyperactivity/hypoactivity, inattention, speech/language, soc