

# Clinical Reasoning with Alice

## W7 Clinical Reasoning Form: Alice

**1. Identify Alice's Key Problem Area**

Non-selective motor control of the involved (right) side.

**2. List 3 underlying factors that may contribute to Alice's Key Problem Area.**

1. Increased tone of the trunk and right upper extremity. Specifically the muscles acting on the scapula in retraction and elevation, elbow flexion and finger flexion.

2. Overuse of the non-involved (left) side. She over stabilizes the left side in order to move her involved side.

3. Learned non-use.

**3. How does this key problem affect Alice's ability to function (at this time)?**

Alice is able to function fairly independently. She can ambulate without assistance or equipment (she uses an AFO on her right foot) and she is independent in ADLs. She is limited in function that requires the use of both hands.

**4. In order for Alice to function at a higher level, what problem areas would you address and what changes would you expect during therapy?**

Alice needs to learn to use her right upper extremity with less effort of the non-involved side. Therapeutic methods should emphasize inhibiting the high tone of the right side and improve proximal control of the scapula and pelvic girdles. Due to the learned non-use of the right hand and upper extremity, treatment must include the right hand in all tasks. I would expect that with treatment Alice could learn to use her hand as a gross assist.