

muscles. This shows improvement in myofibrils in DS muscle than in DC muscle. Thus the increase in sarcoplasmic and myofibrillar proteins indicates an overall increase in non-collagenous proteins. However, the insignificant change observed in the collagen content of the DS muscle from control suggests possible inhibition on the collagen accumulation in the denervated muscles as a result of induced exercise. The decrease in collagen content also leads to improved muscular efficiency.

In conclusion, it can be stated that sciactomy leads to muscular atrophy. The training programme of electrical stimulation can be employed for the treatment of muscle atrophy and the ensuing muscle damages.

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## NEWS

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### DECLARATION OF TALLOIRES: POLIO CAN BE ERADICATED!

The Task Force for Child Survival, whose members are the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Rockefeller Foundation, met in Talloires, France, during 10-12 March 1988.

Seventy-five of the world's leading experts on child and maternal health, learned about the progress achieved during the last decade in the fields of immunization, diarrhoeal disease control, family planning and resource mobilization.

Participants expressed admiration for the efforts made by developing countries to combat dangerous threats to the health of infants and children through primary health care. They also discussed the desirability of health development aid in the 1990s pursuing and expanding the initiatives aimed at protecting the world's children.

A number of targets were discussed as being achievable by the year 2000, despite being challenging. Polio should be eradicated from the globe. Deaths from neonatal tetanus should disappear. Measles and diarrhoea deaths should be reduced by 95% and 70% respectively, and childhood and maternal mortality reduced by half. There should be universal primary education and 80% female literacy. Severe malnutrition should be eliminated.

The Declaration of Talloires commits the Organizations who are sponsors of the Task Force to these goals, which are seen as making essential contributions to human and national development and to the attainment of health for all by the year 2000. (For details please write to: The Carter Presidential Center, Inc., One Copenhill, Atlanta, Georgia 30307. OR Media Service, World Health Organization, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland.)

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