**SOUNDS**
While often unavoidable, some children struggle with sounds that are associated with materials commonly used within the field of orthotics, including Velcro. Take care to trim loose strap ends to avoid Velcro or similar materials catching against clothing. Consider adding bumpers to plantarflexion stops to reduce noise. “A child who is hyper-responsive to their sense of sound may be ‘easily distracted by noise.’”

**TACTILE SENSATIONS**
While easy to overlook, the overall feeling of a material against the wearer should not be taken for granted. “A child who is hyper-responsive (over-responsive) to touch may be bothered by certain fabrics, textures or clothes,” “desire deep pressure,” and “have an innate desire to touch all textures. Children who are over-responsive to sensory input are more sensitive to sensory stimulation than most people. Their bodies feel sensation too easily or too intensely.”

**CONCLUSION**
While research is limited regarding orthotic acceptance in pediatric patients with SPS, this may be partly related to the challenges associated with collecting the data necessary to draw meaningful conclusions. “We have very little understanding of the effect of orthotic treatment on these pathologies. For example, can bracing exacerbate or calm sensory processing disorders? The trouble with this question is that it probably varies greatly from person to person and from brace to brace. The biggest challenge in research in this topic is the variability from patient to patient.” There is, however, a clear need for further understanding in this area. A 2016 study found an association between individuals with an overreaction to stimuli and problems in their daily functioning. Lane, Reynolds, and Dumenci wrote that children with SPS “demonstrate defensive or exaggerated avoidant responses to everyday sensations that people with more typical sensory processing do not find bothersome.” Finally, Sher wrote, “Children with sensory processing disorder (SPD) can be so affected by their sensory preferences that it interferes with normal everyday functioning. Children with hypersensitivity to sensory input may exhibit fearful responses to touch, textures, noise, crowds, lights, and smells, even when these inputs seem benign to others.”

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References are available at www.opedge.com.