**Cerebral palsy patient taking first steps thanks to post-SDR orthotic treatment**

For cerebral palsy patients, [selective dorsal rhizotomy](http://www.londonorthotics.co.uk/orthotics/paediatric-orthotics/selective-dorsal-rhizotomy-sdr/) (SDR) surgery is a treatment that can help to improve stiffness and spasticity by dividing the nerves that run from the muscles back to the spinal cord. Just4Children works with many families who are supporting their children through the symptoms and impact of cerebral palsy – so we were interested to hear recently from our friends and colleagues at the [London Orthotic Consultancy](http://www.londonorthotics.co.uk) (LOC) about the success they’re having in the treatment of post-SDR patients at their Kingston based [Gait Laboratory](http://www.londonorthotics.co.uk/orthotics/the-gait-lab/).

The Gait Laboratory is run in partnership with world renowned physiotherapist [Elaine Owen](http://www.londonorthotics.co.uk/orthotics/elaine-owen-clinic/). Together, Elaine and LOC are applying a different approach to post-SDR treatment that focuses not on prioritising the elimination of orthotic treatment after surgery – but rather on the application of bespoke orthotics to develop the child’s ability to reach new goals in their movement.

One such patient is Aran, aged 10, who on Mother’s Day this year took his very first independent steps. His mother, Kurda, was thrilled to experience this very special moment with him. “On the first video we made, all you can hear is me crying,” she said. “After 10 years of daily physiotherapy and swimming, not to mention SDR, hamstring and tendon lengthening, we have finally achieved independent walking – it was a mother’s day gift that would take some beating.”

LOC is also working with a number of other post-SDR patients with similar success. If you’d like to know more, you can read all about it at the following links:

Read about [milestone steps for SDR patient Aran](http://www.londonorthotics.co.uk/news/2016/milestone-steps-for-sdr-patient-aran/)

Find out more about [selective dorsal rhizotomy (SDR)](http://www.londonorthotics.co.uk/orthotics/paediatric-orthotics/selective-dorsal-rhizotomy-sdr/)