Articles

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Effects of electromyographic biofeedback as an adjunctive therapy in the treatment of swallowing disorders: a systematic review of the literature.
[Conclusions: Adjunctive therapeutic protocols with biofeedback electromyography exert positive effects on swallowing function.]
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Dysphagia and malnutrition in older adults.
Taylor, Carolyn, British Journal of Community Nursing; Jul 2019; vol. 24 (no. Supp7)
The article reports on the link between dysphagia, or swallowing difficulty, and malnutrition in older adults. Topics covered include how dysphagia increases the risk of dehydration, the ways to increase nutritional intake and the importance of having a record of regular body weights in checking for malnutrition.
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The Effect of rTMS over the Different Targets on Language Recovery in Stroke Patients with Global Aphasia: A Randomized Sham-Controlled Study.
Ren, Caili; Zhang, Guofu; Xu, Xinlei; Hao, Jianfeng; Fang, Hui et al. BioMed Research International; Jul 2019; p. 1-7
Objective. To evaluate and compare the effects of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS) over the right pars triangularis of the posterior inferior frontal gyrus (pIFG) and the right posterior superior temporal gyrus (pSMG) in global aphasia following subacute stroke. Methods. Fifty-four patients with subacute poststroke global aphasia were randomized to 15-day protocols of 20-minute inhibitory 1 Hz rTMS over either the right triangular part of the pIFG (the rTMS-b group) or the right pSTG (the rTMS-w group) or to sham stimulation, followed by 30 minutes of speech and language therapy. Language outcomes were assessed by aphasia quotient (AQ) scores obtained from the Chinese version of the Western Aphasia Battery (WAB) at baseline and immediately after 3 weeks (15 days) of experimental treatment. Results. Forty-five patients completed the entire study. The primary outcome measures include the changes in WAB-AQ score, spontaneous speech, auditory comprehension, and repetition. These measures indicated significant main effect between the baseline of the rTMS-w, rTMS-b, and sham groups and immediately after stimulation (P<0.05). Compared with the sham group, the increases were significant for auditory comprehension,
repetition, and AQ in the rTMS-w group (P<0.05), whereas the changes in repetition, spontaneous speech, and AQ tended to be higher in the rTMS-b group (P<0.05). Conclusions. Inhibitory rTMS targeting the right pIFG and pSTG can be an effective treatment for subacute stroke patients with global aphasia. The effect of rTMS may depend on the stimulation site. Low-frequency rTMS inhibited the right pSTG and significantly improved language recovery in terms of auditory comprehension and repetition, whereas LF-rTMS inhibited the right pIFG, leading to apparent changes in spontaneous speech and repetition.

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Effects of oral neuromuscular training on swallowing dysfunction among older people in intermediate care—a cluster randomised, controlled trial.

Hägglund, Patricia; Hägg, Mary; Wester, Per; Jäghagen, Eva Levring, Age & Ageing; Jul 2019; vol. 48 (no. 4); p. 533-540

The article presents a prospective, cluster randomised, controlled trial to examine the effect of oral neuromuscular training in older persons with impaired swallowing. Also cited are the use of timed water swallow test to determine the change in swallowing rate, the changes in aspiration signs during the test, as well as the subjects' swallowing-related quality of life (QOL) based on the results.

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