  
**UNIVERSITEIT GENT**

## NEUROMODULATION FOR SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

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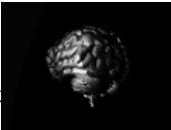
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## NEUROMODULATION

- ▣ Impact on neurophysiological functions
- ▣ Impact on clinical function of the nervous system

- Pharmacological
- Neurostimulation
- Facilitated rehabilitation



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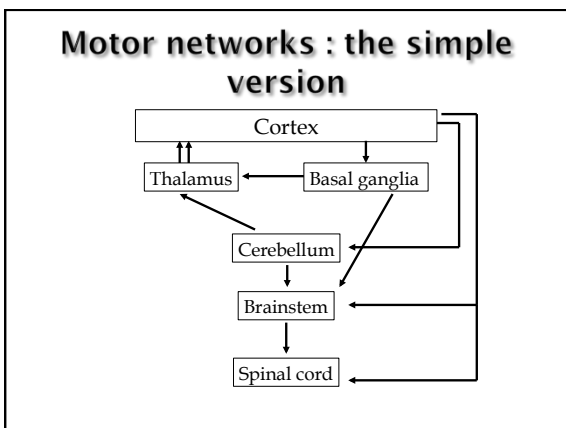
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## Neurostimulation

- ☐ Cortical stimulation
  - Direct electrical stimulation (intraoperative)
  - Transcranial magnetic stimulation
  - Transcranial electric stimulation
- ☐ Deep brain stimulation in movement disorders
  - High-frequency stimulation
  - Low-frequency stimulation
- ☐ Peripheral nerve stimulation
  - Vagal nerve stimulation
  - Limb nerve stimulation

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## Cortical stimulation : applications

- ☐ Transcranial magnetic stimulation in the rehabilitation of language disorders
- ☐ Transcranial magnetic stimulation in parkinsonian disorders

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Cortical stimulation →

Peripheral rehabilitation  
Sensory stimulation  
Constraint-induced treatment →

Figure 7. Diagram showing possible operational strategies to influence hand function (see "Possible Strategies to Enhance the Human Brain's Response to Injury" section for details).

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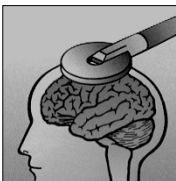
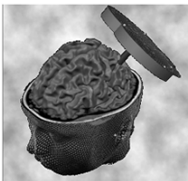
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## Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation

High-frequency stimulation : excitation  
Low-frequency stimulation : inhibition

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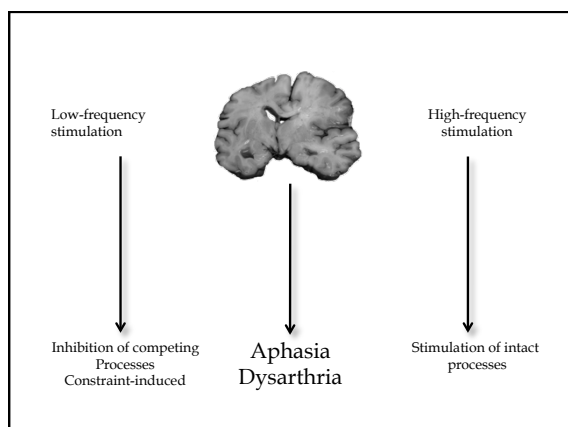
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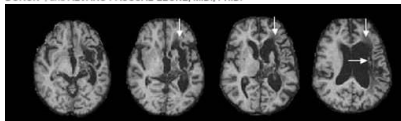
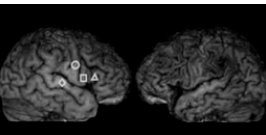
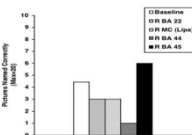
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Neurocase, 2005 June ; 11(3): 182-193.

### Improved naming after TMS treatments in a chronic, global aphasia patient — case report

MARGARET A. NAESER, PH.D.<sup>1</sup>, PAULA I. MARTIN<sup>1</sup>, MARJORIE NICHOLAS, PH.D.<sup>1</sup>, ERROL H. BAKER, PH.D.<sup>1</sup>, HEIDI SEEKINS<sup>1</sup>, NANCY HELM-ESTABROOKS, SC.D.<sup>1</sup>, CAROL CAYER-MEADE, M.A.<sup>1</sup>, MASAHITO KOBAYASHI, M.D.<sup>2</sup>, HUGO THEORET, PH.D.<sup>2,3</sup>, FELIPE FREGNI, M.D.<sup>2</sup>, JOSE MARIA TORMOS, M.D.,PH.D.<sup>2,4</sup>, JACQUEE KURLAND, M.S.<sup>1</sup>, KARL W. DORON<sup>1</sup>, and ALVARO PASCUAL-LEONE, M.D., PH.D.<sup>2,4</sup>

| Condition    | Mean % |
|--------------|--------|
| Baseline     | ~4.5   |
| BA 22        | ~3.5   |
| MC (1,2,3,4) | ~3.0   |
| BA 44        | ~2.5   |
| BA 45        | ~5.5   |

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### Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation in parkinsonism

- ☐ Impaired inhibition in the cortex in PD
- ☐ rTMS can reverse the alterations in cortical excitability
- ☐ Outcome of clinical studies highly variable
  - Stimulation frequency
  - Stimulation intensity
  - Localization of stimulation
  - Outcome parameters

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### rTMS can induce dopamine release in the striatum

*Strafella et al, 2003*  
Motor cortex stimulation  
High-frequency stimulation, subthreshold

*Strafella et al, 2001*  
Prefrontal cortex stimulation  
High-frequency stimulation, subthreshold

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### rTMS in PD : effects on voice and speech (*Dias et al, 2006*)

Rapid-rate stimulation, subthreshold, DLPFC

**Table 2** Speech characteristics: Experiment 1 (Active rTMS group – Group 1)

|                       | Pre-treatment |      |        |      | Post-treatment |      |        |      | P-value <sup>†</sup> |
|-----------------------|---------------|------|--------|------|----------------|------|--------|------|----------------------|
|                       | Men           |      | Women  |      | Men            |      | Women  |      |                      |
|                       | Mean          | SD   | Mean   | SD   | Mean           | SD   | Mean   | SD   |                      |
| <i>F</i> <sub>1</sub> | 144.66        | 9.66 | 228.00 | 5.70 | 143.33         | 7.27 | 229.40 | 5.72 | ns                   |
| Voice intensity       | 37.76         | 3.31 | 37.00  | 1.00 | 38.00          | 3.03 | 39.20  | 4.80 | ns                   |
| V-RQOL                | 26.87         | 4.65 | 27.50  | 6.61 | 31.75          | 7.62 | 31.50  | 9.47 | <0.0001              |

rTMS, repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation; DLPFC, left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex; V-RQOL, voice-related quality of life.  
<sup>†</sup>ns, not significant; P < 0.05.

**Table 3** Speech characteristics: Experiment 1 (Sham rTMS group – Group 2)

|                       | Pre-treatment |      |        |      | Post-treatment |      |        |      | P-value <sup>†</sup> |
|-----------------------|---------------|------|--------|------|----------------|------|--------|------|----------------------|
|                       | Men           |      | Women  |      | Men            |      | Women  |      |                      |
|                       | Mean          | SD   | Mean   | SD   | Mean           | SD   | Mean   | SD   |                      |
| <i>F</i> <sub>1</sub> | 145.33        | 7.73 | 228.40 | 6.42 | 148.83         | 7.02 | 229.20 | 6.30 | ns                   |
| Voice intensity       | 37.00         | 1.80 | 37.40  | 1.14 | 38.70          | 2.78 | 39.20  | 1.64 | ns                   |
| V-RQOL                | 28.58         | 4.80 | 26.00  | 4.54 | 43.33          | 4.60 | 46.50  | 3.79 | <0.0001              |

rTMS, repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation; DLPFC, left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex; V-RQOL, voice-related quality of life.  
<sup>†</sup>ns, not significant; P < 0.05.

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### rTMS in PD : effects on voice and speech *(Dias et al, 2006)*

Rapid-rate stimulation, subthreshold, M1 mouth area

**Table 4** Speech characteristics: Experiment 2

|                 | Active rTMS of the M1-mouth area <sup>1</sup> |      |        |      |                |      |        |      | P-value <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|------|--------|------|----------------|------|--------|------|----------------------|
|                 | Pre-treatment                                 |      |        |      | Post-treatment |      |        |      |                      |
|                 | Men                                           |      | Women  |      | Men            |      | Women  |      |                      |
|                 | Mean                                          | SD   | Mean   | SD   | Mean           | SD   | Mean   | SD   |                      |
| $f_0$           | 139.20                                        | 1.30 | 223.00 | 2.00 | 121.20         | 7.94 | 240.00 | 2.00 | <0.001               |
| Voice intensity | 58.20                                         | 0.60 | 59.00  | 1.00 | 70.20          | 1.30 | 70.00  | 1.00 |                      |

rTMS, repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation.  
<sup>1</sup>rTMS of the primary motor cortex (mouth area).  
<sup>2</sup>ns represents P > 0.05 from a 2 x 2 ANOVA.

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### rTMS in patients with PSP

*P.Santens, A.Sieben, M.De Letter : rTMS in patients with PSP - a pilot study  
 Acta Neurologica Belgica 2009; 109 : 200-204*

|     | Age | Dur<br>Diagn | Gaze<br>Palsy | Falls | Speech | Dysph | ENOG |
|-----|-----|--------------|---------------|-------|--------|-------|------|
| 1 F | 60Y | 3Y           | Yes           | Yes   | Yes    | Yes   | Yes  |
| 2 M | 77Y | 2Y           | Yes           | Yes   | Yes    | Yes   | Yes  |
| 3 M | 75Y | 2Y           | Yes           | Yes   | Yes    | No    | ND   |
| 4 M | 70Y | 5Y           | Yes           | Yes   | Yes    | No    | Yes  |
| 5 M | 66Y | 2Y           | Yes           | Yes   | Yes    | Yes   | Yes  |
| 6 M | 72Y | 7Y           | Yes           | Yes   | Yes    | Yes   | ND   |

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### Repetitive TMS in PSP patients : Methodology

TMS methodology

- Stimulation over motor cortex, using vertex coil
- Detection of motor threshold in intrinsic foot muscle
- Stimulation at 80% of threshold, 10 Hz
- Stimulation for 5 sec, followed by 55 sec rest
- 20 cycles
- Five consecutive days
- Evaluation by means of dedicated PSP scoring system  
*(Golbe et al., 2007)*

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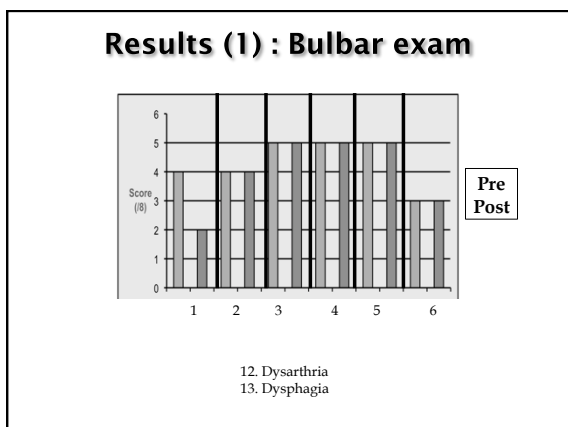
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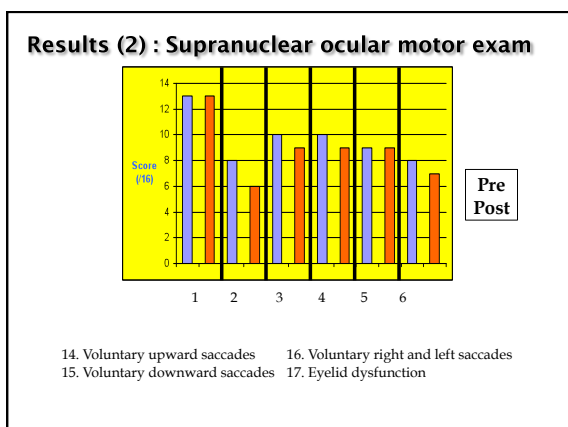
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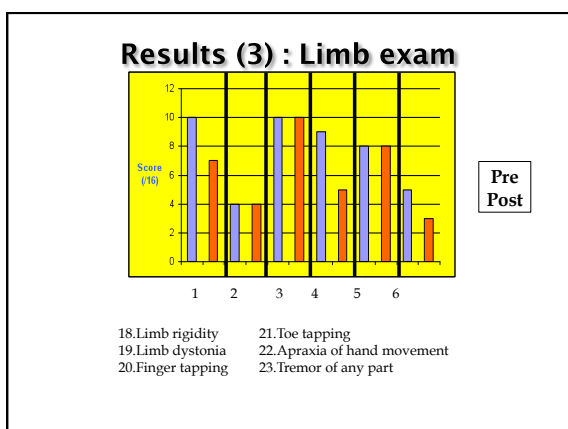
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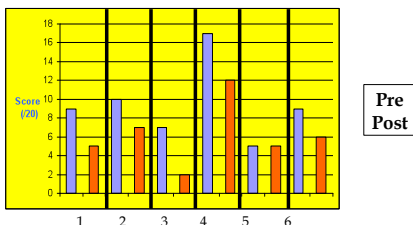
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### Results (4) : Gait / Midline exam



24. Neck rigidity or dystonia      27. Postural stability  
 25. Arising from chair            28. Sitting down  
 26. Gait

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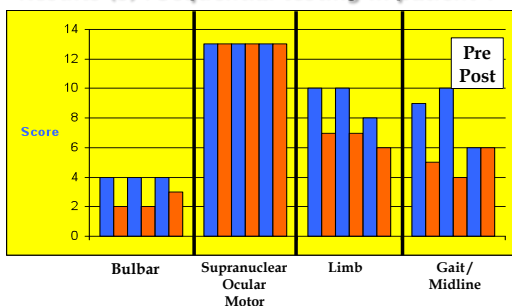
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### Results (5) : Sequential testing in patient 1



Two weeks between testing

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### rTMS in PSP : conclusions

Using this methodology : rapid-rate, subthreshold motor cortex stimulation

- ☐ Minor temporary improvements in some functions, especially midline functions
- ☐ Short-lived but consistent effects
- ☐ No consistent effects on speech and swallowing

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### Deep brain stimulation and speech in PD

- ▣ Effects of high-frequency subthalamic nucleus stimulation on speech in PD are variable and not consistent (Pinto et al, 2004)
- ▣ Differential effects on speech of parameter settings in DBS (Törnqvist et al, 2005), especially negative effects of higher frequencies and amplitudes
- ▣ Negative effects of left-sided stimulation (Santens et al, 2003)
- ▣ Increase of dysarthria is underreported in the literature on DBS of the STN

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### Prospects for speech and DBS

- ▣ Pedunculopontine nucleus stimulation ?
  - Low-frequency stimulation
  - Mainly effects on axial functions
  - Improvement of cognitive functions and grammatical performance (Alessandro et al, 2010)
- ▣ Low-frequency STN stimulation ?
  - Improvement of gait and axial functions (Moreau et al, 2008)
  - Preliminary experience suggests improved intelligibility in some patients.

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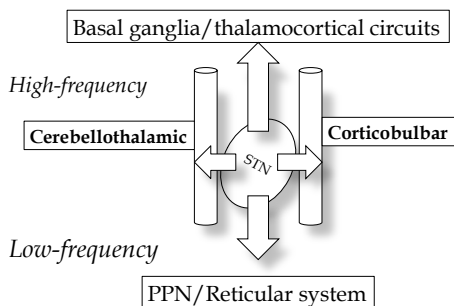
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## Peripheral nerve stimulation

- ☐ Vagal nerve stimulation for epilepsy
  - Intermittent low-rate stimulation
  - Hoarseness
  - Mechanism of action ?
  
- ☐ Limb nerve stimulation and peripheral rehabilitation
  - Sensorimotor effects with secondary effects on language perception and production ?

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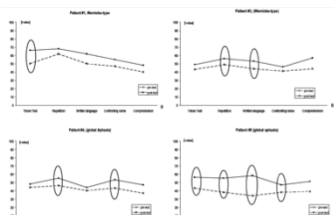
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Restorative Neurology and Neuroscience 27 (2007) 9–21  
929 Pages

### Combined transcranial direct current stimulation and robot-assisted arm training in subacute stroke patients: A pilot study<sup>1</sup>

S. Heuser<sup>1,2</sup>, C. Witten<sup>1</sup>, E.M. Schoenhuber<sup>1</sup>, A. Bartschleber<sup>1</sup>, W. Jentrich<sup>3</sup> and S.G.B. Kieker<sup>4</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Klinik Berlin, Department of Neurological Rehabilitation, Charité – University Medicine Berlin, Germany  
<sup>2</sup>Klinikum Essen von Bismarck, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Plettenberg, Germany  
<sup>3</sup>Abdankovskaya Hospital, Cambridge, UK


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## Rehabilitation facilitation



- ☐ Neurofeedback
- ☐ Virtual reality
- ☐ Brain-Computer interfaces

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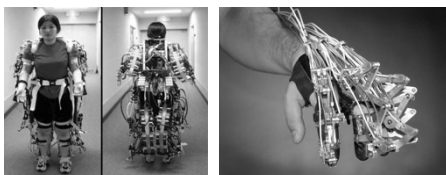
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### Signals for feedback

- ▣ Motor performance
- ▣ Speech output
- ▣ Neurophysiological signals : EEG, EP
- ▣ Assisted performance e.g. Robot-assisted training, exoskeletons



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### Virtual reality tools



- Direct feedback possible
- Psychosocial rehabilitation

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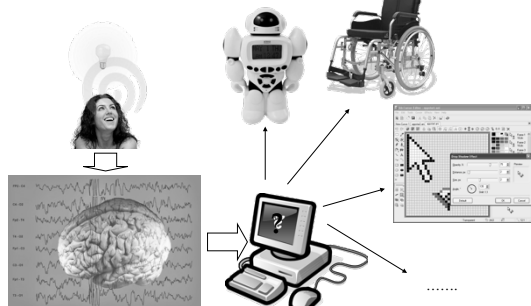
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### Brain-computer interfaces



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**Neuromodulation : prospects for speech and language ?**

- ☐ Pharmacological : unclear
- ☐ Cortical stimulation:
  - Language rehabilitation : promising
  - Speech in PD : targeting to mouth area - to be explored
- ☐ Deep brain stimulation
  - PPN stimulation to be explored
  - Low-rate STN stimulation to be explored
- ☐ Feedback-related strategies to be explored

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**Thank you !**



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