

ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Otorhinolaryngology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14332

Title: Disturbed tongue movements associated with dysphagia in patients with neuromuscular disorders

Reviewer's code: 00646401

Reviewer's country: Germany

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2014-09-29 21:14

Date reviewed: 2014-12-01 05:41

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		[Y] No	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		BPG Search:	
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		[Y] No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The authors provide an overview of studies on tongue properties in neuromuscular disorders and beyond. They show own data from previously published observations. The manuscript is interesting and of relevance for the readership of this Journal. Some criticism should be addressed: 1. It should be corrected that an indication for an oral feeding tube should not merely depend on outcomes of the VF or tongue pressure assessment. Rather, the clinical symptoms of dysphagia should be taken into account and the use of an appropriate scale should be suggested for clinical practice, e.g. the Sydney swallowing questionnaire, the quality of life scale or the MD Anderson dysphagia inventory. 2. A large portion of the manuscript is on Parkinson's disease (e.g. pages 5-7), but this is not a neuromuscular disorder. Stroke and other neurological conditions are also reviewed. This should be clarified and the abstract and title should reflect this, e.g. by discussing "neuromuscular and other neurological disorders". 3. Page 7, data by Higo et al. on VF assessment: More details of differential findings in MG, ALS, MSA etc. should be mentioned. 4. Figures 1 to 3: the number of patients should be mentioned for each piece of data. The original publication of each of these figures should be



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ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Otorhinolaryngology

ESPS manuscript NO: 14332

Title: Disturbed tongue movements associated with dysphagia in patients with neuromuscular disorders

Reviewer's code: 02978467

Reviewer's country: Denmark

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	PubMed Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
		BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> The same title	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

General comments The subject under review is relevant and the ultimate aim of achieving intubation guidelines for dysphagia patients with neuromuscular disorders is clinically interesting. However, the amount of discussion/conclusion and description on how to achieve this aim is very sparse. The review as such is well written and summarize a new area of research but do not bring much innovation in regard to contributing to the existing knowledge or improving treatments of this particular group of patients. If I am to accept this paper for publication I need further discussion/conclusion elements. Regarding ethical aspects of the research I am concerned about the ticked off "inappropriate authorship"-box. Title/abstract The title should include that tongue thickness and tongue pressure also were under review. I believe the objectives of the abstract should include that this is a narrative review a systematic search was not performed. An outline of a separate discussion/conclusion section should be added. No newly generated conclusions are presented in the abstract. Materials and methods There is no separate materials and methods section. I don't believe that a narrative review necessarily should use excessive space for this section but I would at least like

a brief description of how this review were made. What have been done to avoid bias and ensure review quality. Results The summary of the literature seem acceptable and relevant and would enable generation of conclusions or at least newly generated hypotheses. Discussion There is no discussion or conclusion section and the subheadings of the review do not include many elements of these crucial sections. This is my main objection towards this paper. As it is this paper primarily present already existing data but bear the potential for interesting discussions/conclusions that could contribute to the field of dysphagia research. References Included references seem appropriate, relevant, and up-to-date however the author need more precise specifications regarding the speculative or factual nature of statements. When referring to own research, references to published articles should be included. Tables and figures reflect and supplement the major subjects of the review and present an acceptable and concise data in a clear manner. Specific comments Abstract: Page 2, line 7 - It should be added that tongue pressure is a surrogate measure of tongue strength Introduction: Page 4, line 3 - I suppose you performed a review of VF evaluation Relationship between tongue pressure and swallowing pressure: Page 13, line 11-15 - this is a interesting clinical aim but it lacks suggestions for future study hypotheses, design, and execution in order to get to a point where such guidelines is a possibility. Which criteria would such guidelines build upon and what impact would such guidelines imply.