

Role of repetitive Transcranial magnetic stimulation in functional recovery of post ischemic stroke dysphasia

*A Thesis Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of MD Degree in
Neurology*

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2015

Acknowledgements

This work was carried out at the neurology department faculty of medicine Ain Shams University and at Ain shams university specialized hospital. During this study I have had the opportunity to draw upon the knowledge, expertise and experience of numerous friends and co-workers, acknowledged below, without whom this study would not have been completed.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Professor Samia Ashour Mohamed Helal, professor of neurology, Ain shams university, She has always believed in this study, even during the hard moments, and given me the support I have needed.

I am also most grateful to my supervisor Professor Mahmoud Haron Ibrahim Elbalkimy, professor of neurology, Ain shams university. He has always found time for discussions and guidance.

I am also sincerely grateful to my supervisor Professor Ayman Mohamed Ahmed Nasef, professor of neurology, Ain shams university. He has always supported me and guided my work.

I am also so grateful to my supervisor Professor Salma Hamed Khalil, professor of neurology, Ain shams university. She has always been supportive and encouraging.

I want to express my most sincere and special thanks to my other supervisor, doctor Amr Abdel Moneam Mohamed, Assistant professor of neurology, Ain shams university, his excellent knowledge

of scientific work and his rational advice has been an essential part of carrying out this study.

I also acknowledge my deep indebtedness and gratefulness for my friends and colleagues who helped me choosing the proper subjects based on the criterion which was suggested in the current study.

I owe special thanks to my mother and my late father, who have always loved me and made me state arguments for my opinions since my early childhood; maybe that is why I had to do this work. I also want to thank my brothers and my sister in laws and off course my wife for being what they are.

Index

Abstract	vi
List of abbreviations	viii
List of tables	xi
List of figures	xiv
Introduction	1
Chapter I: Speech production and speech impairment.	8
Chapter II: Available treatment modalities in post cerebrovascular ischemic stroke aphasia.	36
Chapter III: Principles of Electromagnetic field, TMS and Neuromodulation.	52
Subjects and Methods	76
Results:	
(Section I): Descriptive Statistics.	98
(Section II): Comparison between the study groups as regards effect of rTMS on scales follow ups after 1 week, 2 weeks and 1 month from participation in the study and the baseline assessment.	108
(Section III): Comparison as regards the percentage of change in response to rTMS therapy between the study groups and between similar subclasses of aphasia in the study groups.	126
(Section IV): Sum of risk factors and duration of illness and their relation to rTMS therapy in the study groups.	151

Discussion	155
Limitations of the study	174
Conclusion and Recommendations	176
Summary	178
References	182
Appendix	215
الملخص العربي	219

Abstract

Objective: the aim of this study was to throw light on the different types of aphasia which can associate cerebrovascular ischemic stroke in a sample of stroke patients admitted to Ain shams university and Ain shams university specialized hospitals, and to evaluate the role of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation as a non invasive brain stimulation therapy in functional recovery of these dysphasic disorders.

Method: total of 60 post cerebrovascular ischemic stroke aphasic patients in subacute phase (1-3 months) divided into 3 equal groups were included in the study, group A were subjected to stimulatory repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation on dominant language areas, group B were subjected to inhibitory repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation on non dominant language homologue areas, group C were subjected to sham repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation, aphasia subclass was diagnosed based on western aphasia battery, functional improvement was assessed by stroke aphasia quality of life 39 scale, communication items of stroke aphasia quality of life 39 scale and stroke aphasia depression questionnaire after 4 daily successive sessions

of transcranial magnetic stimulation (1 week), after another 4 daily successive sessions (2 weeks) and after 1 month from enrollment into the study.

Results: both active groups showed considerable positive results to repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation compared to sham group on the 3 used scales, on further analysis of results based on rate of change, group B response was better than group A in global, receptive, transcortical aphasia subclasses, while group A was better in anomic aphasia, neither was superior to another in expressive subclass.

Conclusion: the current study showed that rehabilitating aphasic patients using transcranial magnetic stimulation in the subacute phase is of value whether through inhibitory electromagnetic waves on homologue language areas or through stimulatory waves on language dominant areas.

List of abbreviations

AF	Arcuate fasciculus
AF	Atrial fibrillation
AHCPR	Agency for health care policy and research
aSMG	Anterior supramarginal gyrus
BA	Broadmann area
BDNF	Brain derived neurotrophic factor
CT	Computed tomography
DBS	Deep brain stimulation
DLPFC	Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex
DM	Diabetes mellitus
EEG	Electroencephalogram
F7	Left frontal area 7 on international EEG system
F8	Right frontal area 8 on international EEG system
fMRI	Functional magnetic resonance imaging
GABA	γ -aminobutyric acid
HDL	High density lipoprotein
HRQL	Health related quality of life
HS	Highly significant
Hz	hertz
IDF	International diabetes federation
IPG	Internal pulse generator
LH	Left hemisphere
MEP	Motor evoked potential
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
MT	Motor threshold
MTG	Middle temporal gyrus
N	Number

NBS	Non invasive brain stimulation
NCCEA	Neurosensory center comprehensive examination for aphasia
NIHSS	National Institute of Health Stroke Scale
NS	Non significant
PET	Positron emission tomography
PF	Parietal area
PFG	Posterior supramarginal gyrus
PG	Angular gyrus
Pop	Pars opercularis
PTr	Pars triangularis
RCT	Randomized controlled trail
RCTs	Randomized controlled trials
RH	Right hemisphere
rTMS	Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation
rTPA	Recombinant tissue plasminogen activator
SADQ-21	Stroke aphasic depression questionnaire
SADQ-H	Stroke aphasic depression questionnaire hospital version
SAQOL-39	Stroke aphasia quality of life 39 scale
SCD	Skull cortex distance
SD	Standard deviation
SIGN	Significant
SLF	Superior longitudinal fasciculus
SLT	Speech and language therapy
SMA	Left supplementary motor area
STG	Superior temporal gyrus
STG	Superior temporal gyrus

STS	Superior temporal sulcus
T7	Left temporal area 8 on international EEG system
T8	Right temporal area 8 on international EEG system
tDCS	Transcranial direct current stimulation
TG	Triglycerides
TMS	Transcranial magnetic stimulation
VHS	Very highly significant
VNS	Vagal nerve stimulation
WAB	Western aphasia battery
WHO	World health organization

List of tables

Table 1: Boston classification system – characteristic features of aphasia.	25
Table 2: Transcranial non invasive brain stimulation devices.	47-48
Table 3: Classification of aphasic syndromes.	85
Table 4: Comparison between the three study groups as regards aphasia subclass.	100
Table 5: Comparison between the three study groups as regards duration of aphasia subclass prior to enrollment in the study.	101
Table 6: Range of age between the three study groups.	102
Table 7: Comparison between the three study groups as regards sex.	103
Table 8: selected metabolic syndrome risk factors in the three study groups.	104
Table 9: selected cardiac risk factors in the three study groups.	105
Table 10: sum of risk factors effect on aphasia severity in the three study groups.	106
Table 11: SAQOL-39 scale baseline assessment between the three study groups.	108
Table 12: communication items of SAQOL-39 scale baseline assessment Between the three study groups.	110
Table 13: stroke aphasia depression questionnaire baseline assessment Between the three study groups.	111
Table 14: SAQOL-39 scale follow up assessment after 1 week of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	112
Table 15: communication items of the SAQOL-39 scale follow up assessment after 1 week of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	114
Table 16: Stroke aphasia depression questionnaire follow up assessment after 1 week of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	115

Table 17: SAQOL-39 scale follow up assessment after 2 weeks of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	117
Table 18: Communication items of the SAQOL-39 scale follow up assessment after 2 weeks of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	118
Table 19: Stroke aphasia depression questionnaire follow up assessment after 2 weeks of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	120
Table 20: SAQOL-39 scale follow up assessment after one month of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	121
Table 21: Communication items of the SAQOL-39 scale follow up assessment after one month of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	123
Table 22: Stroke aphasia depression questionnaire follow up assessment after one month of rTMS therapy between the three study groups.	124
Table 23: SAQOL-39 percentage of change between the three study groups.	127
Table 24: Communication items of the SAQOL-39 scale percentage of change between the three study groups.	128
Table 25: Stroke aphasia depression questionnaire percentage of change between the three study groups.	129
Table 26: Global aphasia SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	131
Table 27: Global aphasia communication items of SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	132
Table 28: Global aphasia stroke depression questionnaire rate of change between the three study groups.	134
Table 29: Expressive aphasia SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	135
Table 30: Expressive aphasia communication items of SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	136

Table 31: Expressive aphasia stroke depression questionnaire rate of change between the three study groups.	138
Table 32: Receptive aphasia SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	139
Table 33: Receptive aphasia communication items of SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	141
Table 34: Receptive aphasia stroke depression questionnaire rate of change between the three study groups.	142
Table 35: Transcortical aphasia SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	144
Table 36: Transcortical aphasia communication items of SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	145
Table 37: Transcortical aphasia stroke depression questionnaire rate of change between the three study groups.	146
Table 38: Anomic aphasia SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	148
Table 39: Anomic aphasia communication items of SAQOL-39 rate of change between the three study groups.	149
Table 40: Anomic aphasia stroke depression questionnaire rate of change between the three study groups.	150
Table 41: Correlation between sum of risk factors and percent of change in aphasia outcome to rTMS therapy in the three study groups.	152
Table 42: Correlation between the three study groups as regards duration of aphasia prior to enrollment in the study and outcome after rTMS therapy.	153

List of figures

Figure 1: Anatomical localization of broca's area and relation to motor projection areas controlling mouth and lips.	10
Figure 2: Proposed schematic connectivity of the language-related regions in the human brain.	12
Figure 3: Wernicke-Geschwind model.	15
Figure 4: Functional MRI showing activation in the left inferior frontal gyrus, in the bilateral middle temporal gyrus and in the bilateral superior temporal gyrus. Activation is also seen in the left cerebellum and in the left caudate nucleus.	17
Figure 5: Aphasia classification based on fluency.	28
Figure 6: Neuromodulation effect of rTMS as proposed by international neuromodulation society.	54
Figure 7: Direct proportion between change in magnetic field and amount of voltage induced.	57
Figure 8: Electroencephalogram electrodes and their nearest broadmann areas.	80
Figure 8-1: Site of rTMS administration based on EEG electrodes placement.	81
Figure 9: Bedside aphasia subclasses classification criteria based on WAB scores.	84
Figure 10: Neurology department – Ain Shams university transcranial magnetic stimulation device.	93
Figure 11: Percentage of aphasia subclasses in the three study groups.	100
Figure 12: Percentage of male and female sex in the 3 study groups.	103
Figure 13: Sum of risk factors effect on aphasia severity in the study groups.	107
Figure 14: Range of difference in SAQOL-39 scale in the study groups.	109
Figure 15: Range of difference in communication items of the SAQOL-39 scale in the study groups.	110
Figure 16: Range of difference in Stroke aphasia depression questionnaire in the study groups.	111
Figure 17: Range of difference in SAQOL-39 scale in 1 week follow up in the study groups.	113