SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF LONGSTANDING CHRONIC MUSCLE SPASM WITH EMG GUIDED CHEMODENERVATION

INTRODUCTION: Chronic muscle spasm represents a significant cause for chronic pain. Treatment of chronic pain with opioid medications and multiple surgical procedures for chronic pain caused by muscle spasm have not provided adequate control of this condition.

SUMMARY/CONCLUSION: Truly lifelong chronic pain when associated with chronic muscle spasm. Novel treatment modality utilizing needle EMG-guided chemodenervation of muscle spontaneous electrical activity (SEA) provides significant relief of pain.

OBJECTIVE: To correct needle EMG misinterpretation of nerve function and muscle pathology. METHODS: We present a survey of clinical experience to evaluate the efficacy of needle EMG-guided chemodenervation for patients with chronic muscle spasm. RESULTS: A total of 93 sequential patients treated with this technique were surveyed by mail. Forty-two patients responded. RULING OUT CHRONIC MUSCLE SPASM WITH EMG GUIDE CHEMODENERVATION

INTRODUCTION: Chronic myalgia is common in general practice and can be a significant cause of disability. Treatment options include acupuncture, injections and medication. There is debate about the best treatment, and little evidence to guide practice. METHODS: We conducted a systematic review of studies published in English between January 1990 and May 2002. RESULTS: Eight randomized trials were included. There is no evidence that acupuncture is superior to placebo for treatment of chronic myalgia. A number of studies have suggested that low-dose botulinum toxin type A may be effective. CONCLUSION: More research is needed to establish the efficacy of low-dose botulinum toxin type A for the treatment of chronic myalgia.

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