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## Vagal nerve stimulation: exploring its efficacy and success for an improved prognosis and quality of life in cerebral palsy patients

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### Abstract

Cerebral palsy (CP) continues to pose a cause for major socioeconomic concern and medical challenge worldwide. It is associated with a multi-faceted symptomatology warranting a multi-dimensional management-approach. Recent recognition of neurocognitive impairment and its hopefully possible treatment has opened up a new dimension in its management to the neurologists. Vagal nerve stimulation (VNS) technique is presently emerging as an effective alternative anti-epileptic therapeutic measure in intractable epilepsy. VNS has recently been shown to possess a suppressive effect also on interictal epileptiform discharges (IEDs) that are now being widely accepted as established associates of neurocognitive impairment. In this paper, the author proposes VNS technique implantation in CP patients on account of its dual therapeutic effectiveness, i.e. anti-epileptic and IED-suppression. These two effects are likely to control seizures that are quite often drug-resistant and also improve neurocognition in CP patients, thus hoping for a better overall prognostic outcome and an improved quality of life of the CP patients by VNS.

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