

IQoro – A new neuromuscular rehabilitation approach to dysphagia after stroke

IQoro is a neuromuscular training device and regime designed to treat the causes of dysphagia – especially after stroke, Hiatus hernia and its associated symptoms of reflux, LPR and GERD, and snoring and sleep apnoea.

It is successfully used by about 4500 patients, predominantly in its country of origin, Sweden, but relatively new to the UK. It is a CE marked class I medical device and has a growing number of private users in the UK who have purchased via the company's website www.iqoro.com

The company is starting a series of service evaluations in UK NHS hospitals to provide evidence of its applicability in the UK Healthcare system. The device is small, simple and usually self-administered allowing easy deployment amongst patients in their own homes or in residential care as well as in the in-patient setting. Clinical studies available on the company's website



show that a training period of 5 to 13 weeks can improve swallowing in 97% of patients and restore normal swallowing in 63%.

The company is seeking to start limited service evaluations in other NHS institutions and welcomes enquiries.

Cognitive Impairment in Trigeminal Neuralgia

Following a Learning Day for members of the Trigeminal Neuralgia Association UK held at The University of Leeds last year, the hosts from the Cognitive Psychology Department, together with colleagues from Sheffield University and UCLH, set up a project to determine the cognitive and motor effects on patients taking drugs prescribed for TN.

It is well known and documented that there are severe side-effects from such drugs as carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine and others which result in patients being unable to think clearly or, as one sufferer put it, being 'zombified'. Several volunteers from TNA UK have agreed to take part in a study using a series of tests which are displayed

on a tablet computer coupled with oral questioning by the researcher. Over the period of the study, the researcher will also spend some time at UCLH with Professor Zakrzewska reviewing the results of her findings with regard to her own patients. Patients will do these tests when on a high dosage of these drugs and then again after they have stopped them – either because surgery has been successful or because they have gone into a remission period. This will improve understanding of the effects of these drugs and highlight the need for potentially newer drugs that result in fewer cognitive side effects.

www.tna.org.uk

Neurokinex launches charitable trust

Neurokinex - provider of neurological activity-based rehabilitation – has launched the Neurokinex Charitable Trust to provide specialised neurological rehabilitation for various forms of paralysis.

Established in 2013, Neurokinex is the first and only European affiliate of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation's Neuro Recovery Network. It sets out to 'redefine possibilities' for people with a spinal cord injury: its programmes stimulate and load the entire nervous and musculoskeletal systems through carefully crafted, task-specific exercises with the assistance of skilled therapists.

"I believe that everyone living with a

neurological impairment resulting from paralysis deserves access to high quality rehabilitation and wellness programmes based on the latest breakthroughs in neuroscience and neuro-restorative research," says Harvey Sihota, Neurokinex CEO and founder. "My hope is that by raising funds for initiatives such as a dedicated paediatric capability, individual bursaries and an innovation fund to support continuous improvement, more and more people with spinal cord injury can access our groundbreaking programmes and maximise their rehabilitation and recovery."

<http://neurokinex.org/charity>

The Complete Solution for Neurological Gait Rehabilitation

With the THERA-Trainer Complete Solution for gait rehabilitation, medica Medizintechnik GmbH is bringing a complete device-based concept for neurological rehabilitation onto the market. The company is addressing the challenge of offering scientifically established and effective therapies despite the lack of resources, cost pressures and time constraints. "With our Complete Solution, we are successfully implementing an evidence-based, clinically proven treatment concept for the rehabilitation of the lower extremities", says Jacob Tiebel, head of product management at medica.

The THERA-Trainer Complete Solution for gait rehabilitation is developed individually with each customer and is tailored to the current operating reality of each hospital. An in-depth analysis of the initial situation and a customised design of the solution ensure that space issues are taken into account and that the training and therapy devices are properly utilised. The Complete Solution is not a substitute for therapists, but instead facilitates and supports their work. In addition, it enables a single therapist to treat several patients at the same time.

With the Complete Solution concept, THERA-Trainer primarily addresses the organisational and process weaknesses in hospitals. With this approach, the company intends to harness previously untapped economic potential in hospitals, while at the same time working sustainably towards better treatment outcomes. The focus is not on the individual products, but on an optimised therapy process and the full set of devices as a complete solution. Last year, medica acquired an end-effector gait trainer through its merger with the Swiss company ability. "With the THERA-Trainer Iyra, we now offer the full range of products for gait rehabilitation. The real innovation lies in integrating these products intelligently into a high-efficiency setting", said medica owner and managing director Peter Kopf.

www.thera-trainer.de/en

