

Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation in Critically ill patients

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Introduction



Post-intensive care syndrome (PICS)

- **PICS** describes the disability that remains in surviving the critical illness.
 - impairment in *cognition, psychological health*, and *physical function* of the ICU survivors

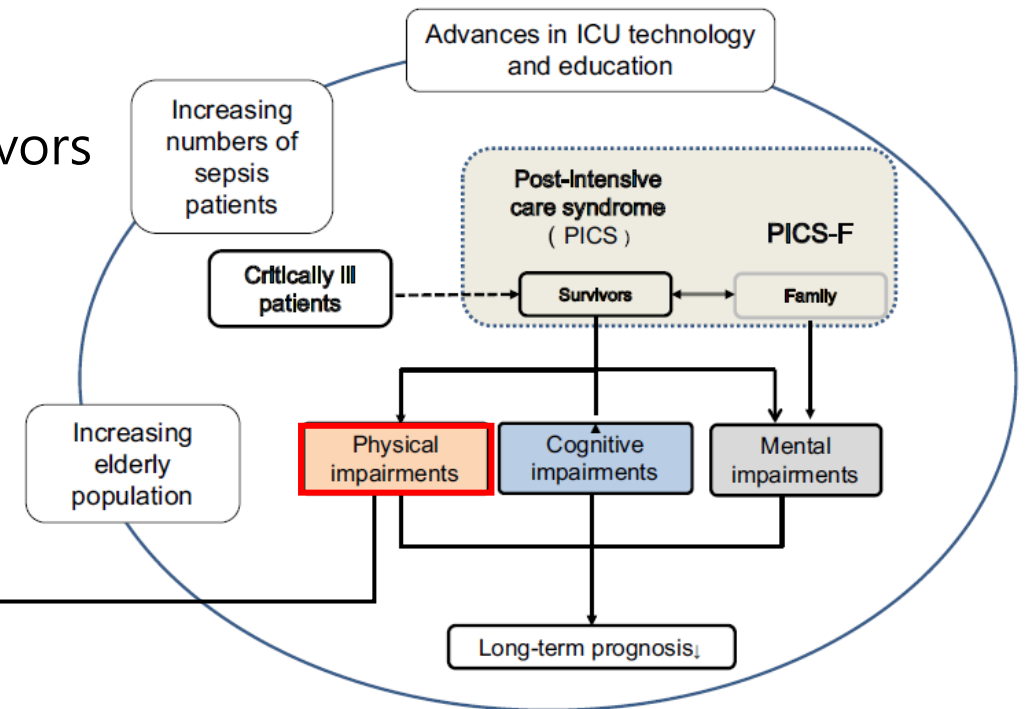
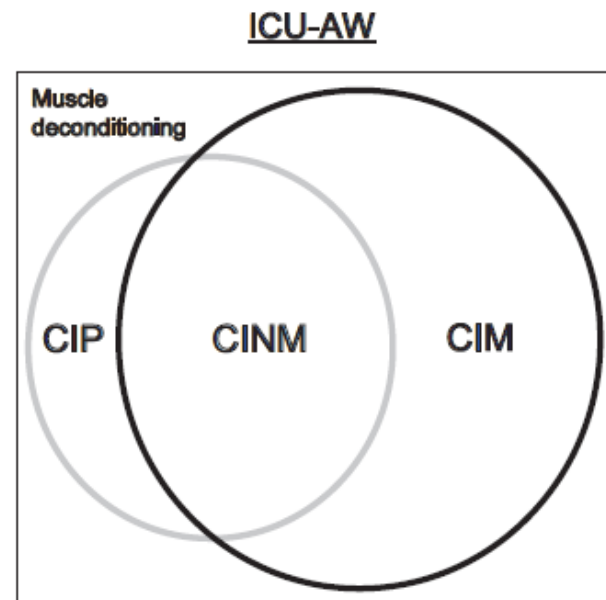
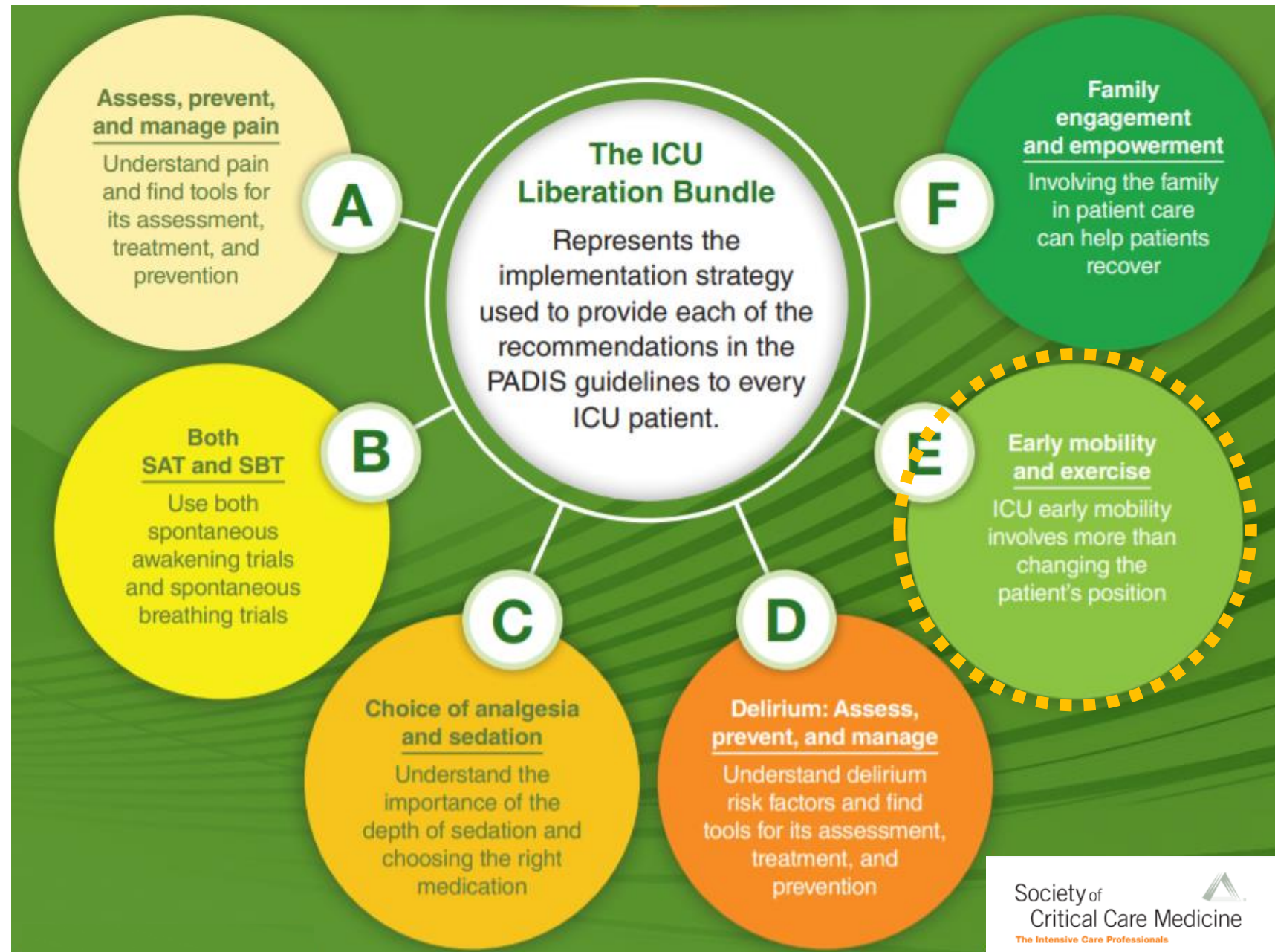


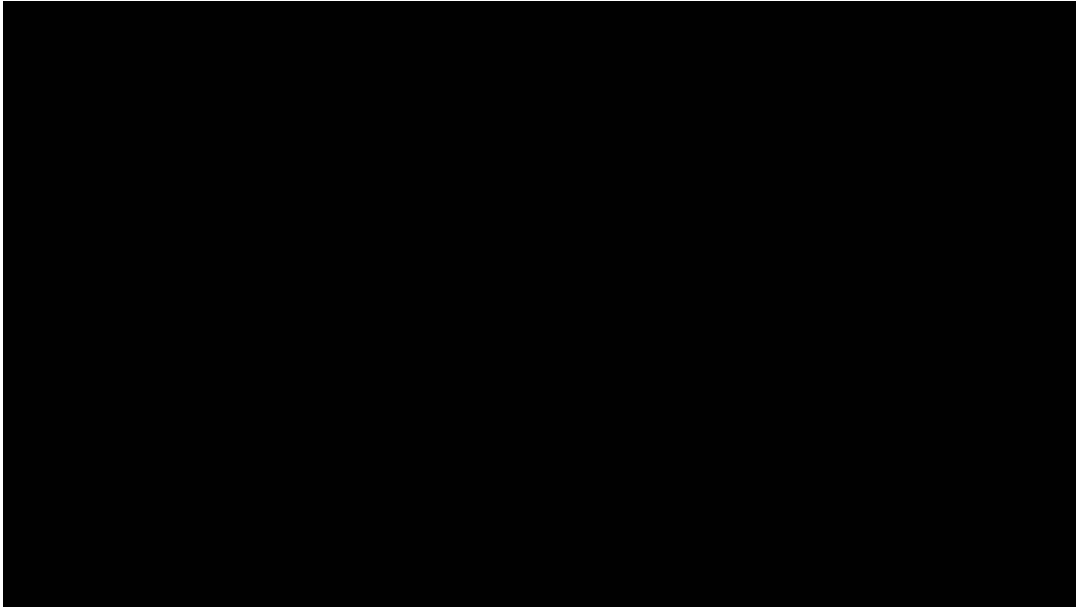
Fig. 1. Conceptual framework of post-intensive care syndrome (PICS). ICU, intensive care unit; PICS-F, PICS – family.

Prevention of PICS

- **ABCDEF** bundle



Early mobilization in Critically ill patients



➤ Medical or Medical-surgical ICU



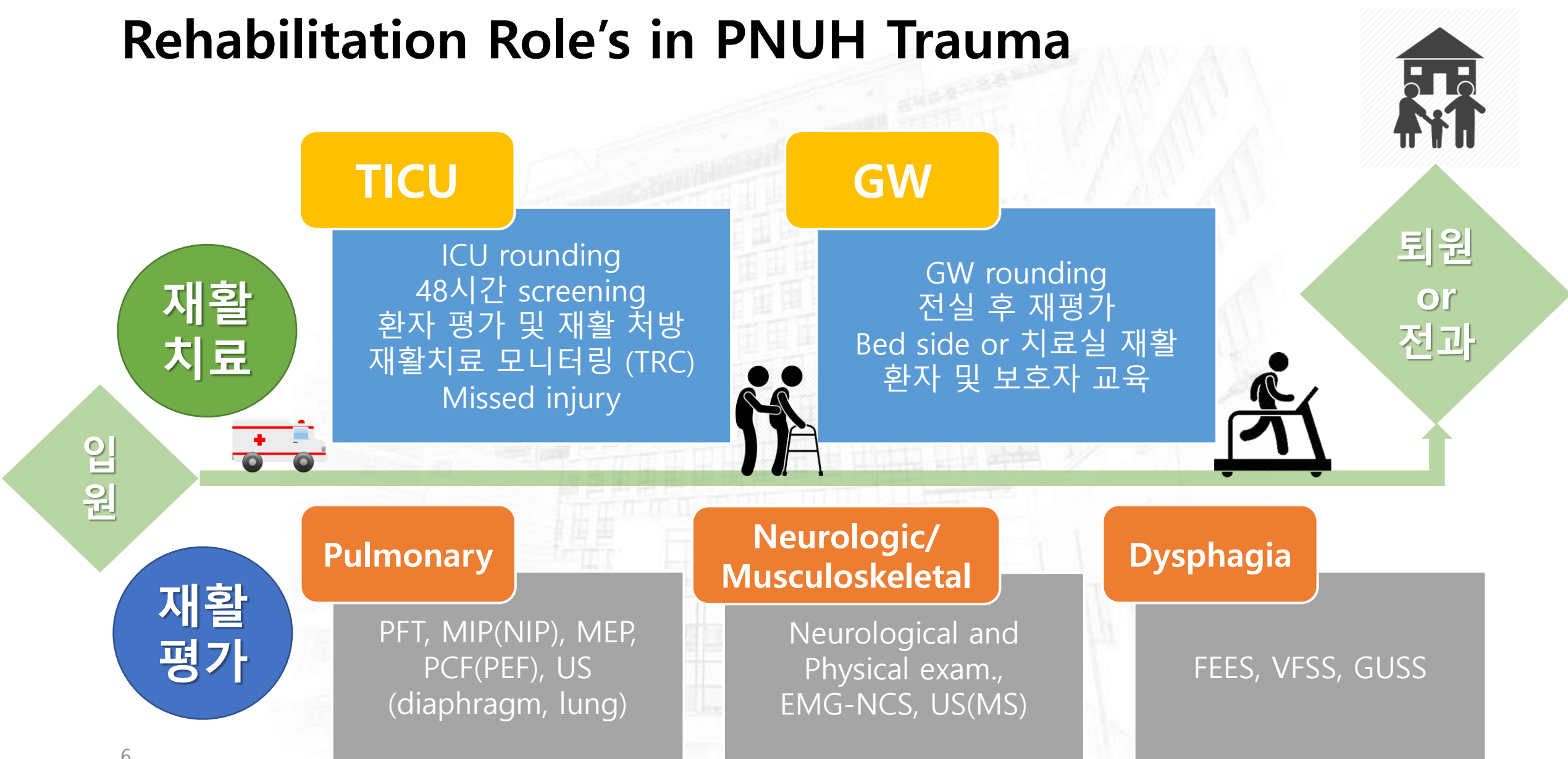
➤ Neuro ICU



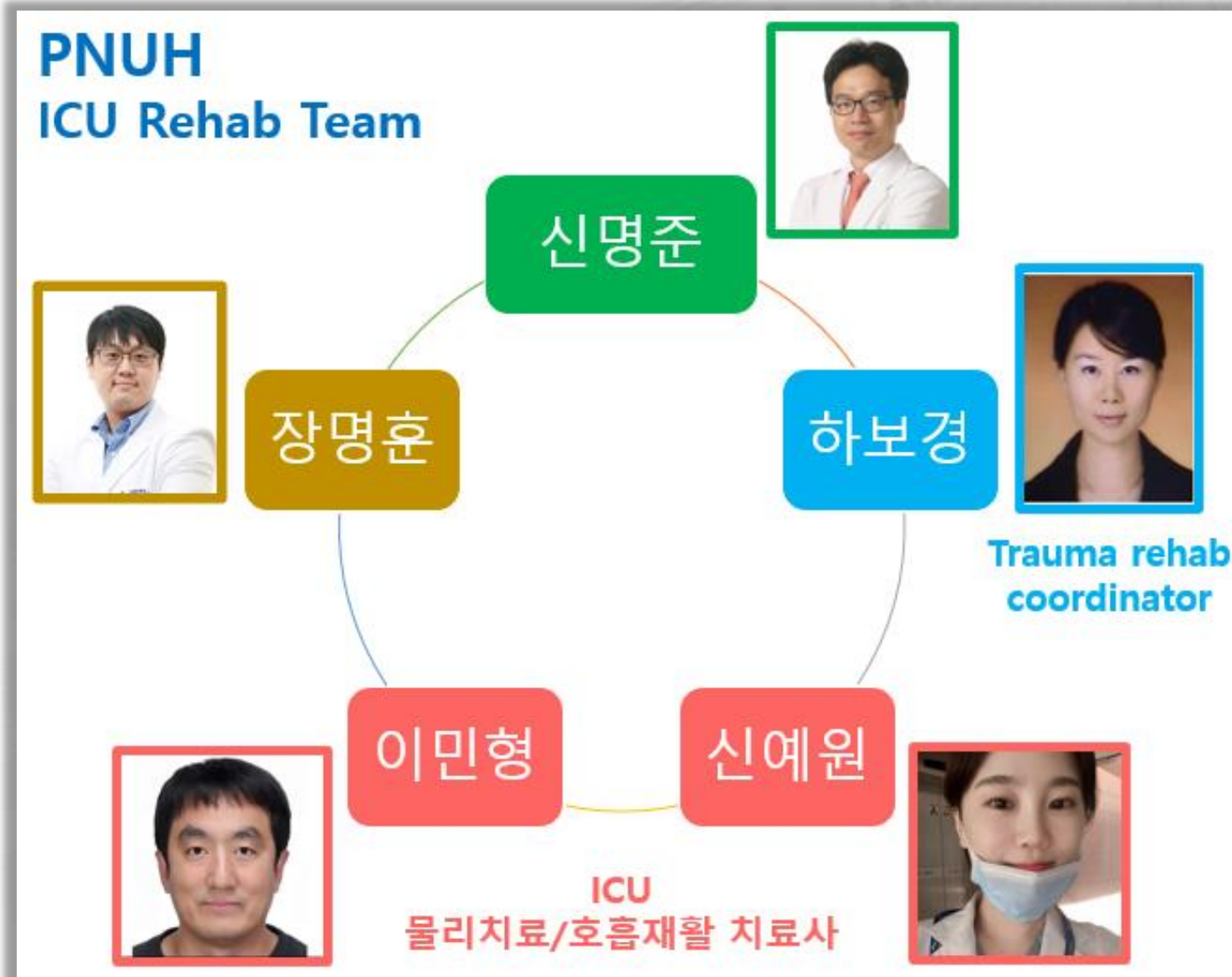
➤ Neuro-trauma ICU



Rehabilitation Role's in PNUH Trauma



Multidisciplinary Team Approach



• Roles of Rehab. Coordinator

1) 의료진 - 팀원 사이 의사소통

: 치료 내용, 목표, 과정 등에 대해서 정보 공유

2) 안전사고에 대비한 조치

: 재활 중 모니터링 및 발관 등 안전사고에 대비



Safety Criteria

- 조기재활을 안전하게 시작할 수 있는 환자의 심혈관계, 호흡기계, 신경계 등 임상적 지표
- 시작 뿐 아니라 재활치료의 중단이 필요한 임상적 지표
- 기준 지표들은 **환자의 임상적인 증상, 현재 상태, 목표 활동량에 따라서 조절 될 수 있음**

System	Screening Item
Cardiovascular	<input type="checkbox"/> SBP < 90mmHg or SBP > 180mmHg <input type="checkbox"/> MBP < 60mmHg or MBP > 110mmHg <input type="checkbox"/> HR < 50bpm or HR > 130bpm <input type="checkbox"/> New or symptomatic arrhythmia, MI <input type="checkbox"/> PTE(discuss with MD to determine suitability) <input type="checkbox"/> DVT(may mobilize as tolerated immediately after LMWH is given) <input type="checkbox"/> Platelet count < 20,000/uL
	< Vasoactive agent > : new vasoactive agent, use of three or more agents or frequent increases <input type="checkbox"/> Dopamine <input type="checkbox"/> Norepinephrine <input type="checkbox"/> Vasopressin <input type="checkbox"/> Epinephrine <input type="checkbox"/> Other :
Respiratory	<input type="checkbox"/> RR ≤ 5 or RR ≥ 40breaths/min <input type="checkbox"/> SpO ₂ ≤ 88% <input type="checkbox"/> FiO ₂ ≥ 0.6 <input type="checkbox"/> PEEP > 10mmHg <input type="checkbox"/> Airway is not adequately secured
Neurologic	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe agitation, stress state <input type="checkbox"/> Attention required for increased intraocular pressure <input type="checkbox"/> ICP ≥ 20mmHg <input type="checkbox"/> Unstable spinal injury or lesion <input type="checkbox"/> CSF leakage or lumbar drain
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> BT ≥ 38°C <input type="checkbox"/> Active or uncontrolled bleeding <input type="checkbox"/> Unstable fracture <input type="checkbox"/> Open abdomen
*the cited values are not absolute criteria for withholding mobilization or chest physiotherapy. It may be modified according to the medical condition of the critically ill patient.	
Stop Criteria	
<input type="checkbox"/> Abnormalities in the above-mentioned vital signs occur. (If it is not stabilized even after stopping mobilization.) <input type="checkbox"/> Changes in consciousness <input type="checkbox"/> New/symptomatic arrhythmia <input type="checkbox"/> Ventilator asynchrony <input type="checkbox"/> Fall <input type="checkbox"/> Bleeding <input type="checkbox"/> Medical device removal or malfunction <input type="checkbox"/> Distress reported by patient or observed by clinician	

Early Mobility Protocol of Trauma ICU (PNUH ver. 1.0)

Mobility level	Level 1 <u>PROM</u>	Level 2 <u>AROM</u>	Level 3 <u>Sitting or dangling</u>	Level 4 <u>Standing</u>	Level 5 <u>Walking</u>
Level of RASS	RASS: -5 to -2	RASS: -2 to +1	RASS: -1 to +1		
Strength criteria	MRC sum score < 36		MRC sum score ≥ 36		
Mobilization	<input type="checkbox"/> (Semi-)fowler's of bed <input type="checkbox"/> Position change (lateral to lateral)	<input type="checkbox"/> High fowler's of bed (chair position of bed) <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling / turning <input type="checkbox"/> Boosting / scooting <input type="checkbox"/> Lying to sitting <input type="checkbox"/> Tilt table standing (use if TBI patients)	<input type="checkbox"/> Chair position of bed <input type="checkbox"/> Sitting on edge of the bed <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer to chair with mechanical lift <i>gradual withdrawal of assistance</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Sit to stand <input type="checkbox"/> Standing balance <input type="checkbox"/> Weight shift <input type="checkbox"/> Side step <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer to chair <input type="checkbox"/> Marching in place <i>with appropriate aids</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Gait training <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing distance & frequency as tolerated <i>with appropriate aids</i>
Exercise program	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerobic Exercise · Passive ergometer (20 RPM) <input type="checkbox"/> Resistance Exercise · NMES <input type="checkbox"/> ROM Exercise · Passive ROM · Muscle stretching ex.	Same as level 1 with more active involvement <input type="checkbox"/> Aerobic Exercise · Assist & active ergometer <input type="checkbox"/> Resistance Exercise · Manual or elastic band (U/Ex. and L/Ex.) · Bridge exercise <input type="checkbox"/> ROM Exercise · Assist & active ROM	Same as level 2 with more active involvement <input type="checkbox"/> Aerobic Exercise · Active ergometer · Burn machine · Seated marching <input type="checkbox"/> Resistance Exercise · Dumbbell · Sand weight (U/Ex. and L/Ex.)	Same as level 3 with more active involvement <input type="checkbox"/> Resistance Exercise · Squat · Heel raise <i>with appropriate aids</i>	Same as level 4 with more active involvement <input type="checkbox"/> Aerobic Exercise · Step box (+/- metronome)
Pulmonary rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Air stacking <input type="checkbox"/> Hyperinflation <input type="checkbox"/> MIE <input type="checkbox"/> Postural drainage <input type="checkbox"/> High frequency oscillation (HFO) <input type="checkbox"/> Percussion	Same as level 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Diaphragmatic breathing <input type="checkbox"/> Deep breathing: thoracic stretching, incentive spirometer <input type="checkbox"/> Airway clearance: splint coughing, huffing & coughing, acapella <input type="checkbox"/> Respiratory muscle training: threshold IMT/PEP <input type="checkbox"/> Active cycle of breathing technique (ACBT)			
Swallowing ex.	<input type="checkbox"/> NMES (submental placement)	Same as level 1 <input type="checkbox"/> shaker exercise, effortful swallowing, Mendelsohn maneuver, jaw open/close			

Early mobilization



Chest physiotherapy



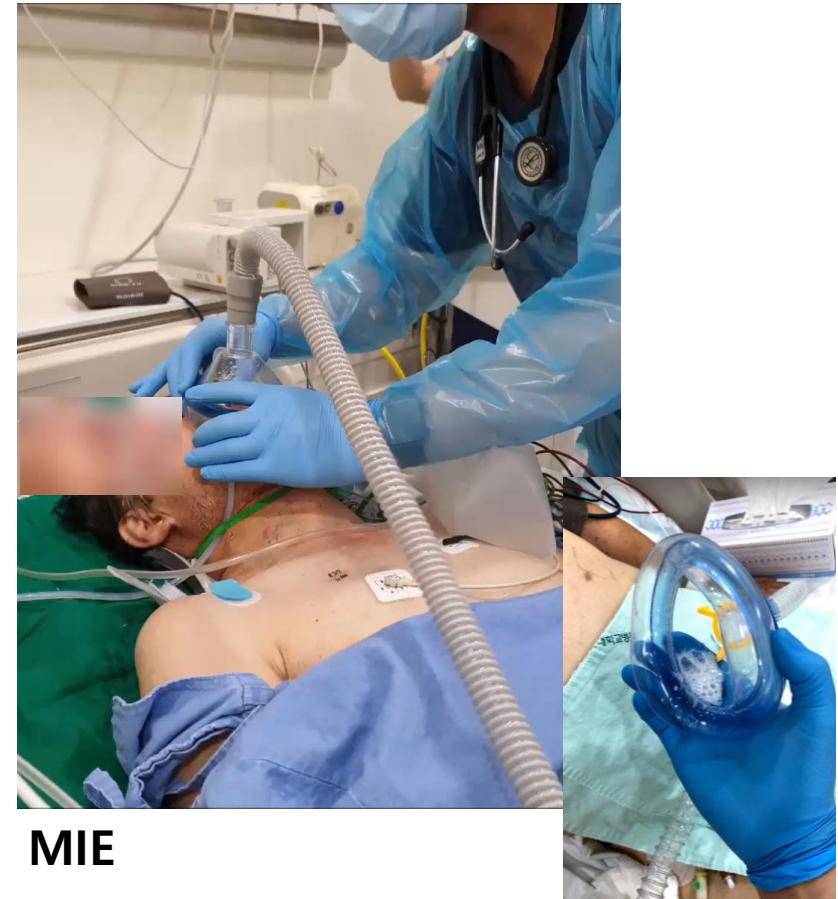
Vibration



Hyperinflation



Percussion



MIE

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Level of RASS	RASS: -5 to -2	RASS: -2 to +1	RASS: -1 to +1		
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Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation

Basic Concepts

Muscular weakness and/or wasting in ICU

• ICU-AW

- 'critical illness myopathy', 'critical illness polyneuropathy', and 'critical illness polyneuromyopathy'
- Medical Research Council-Sum Score (MRS-SS), EMG-NCS

• Mechanical ventilator

- 5-7 days: 26% to 65%
- >10 days: up to 67%

• ICU stay

- at least 24h: 11%
- 7-10 days: 24-55%

- **"Sepsis + Multi-organ system failure(MOF)"**
→ nearly 100%

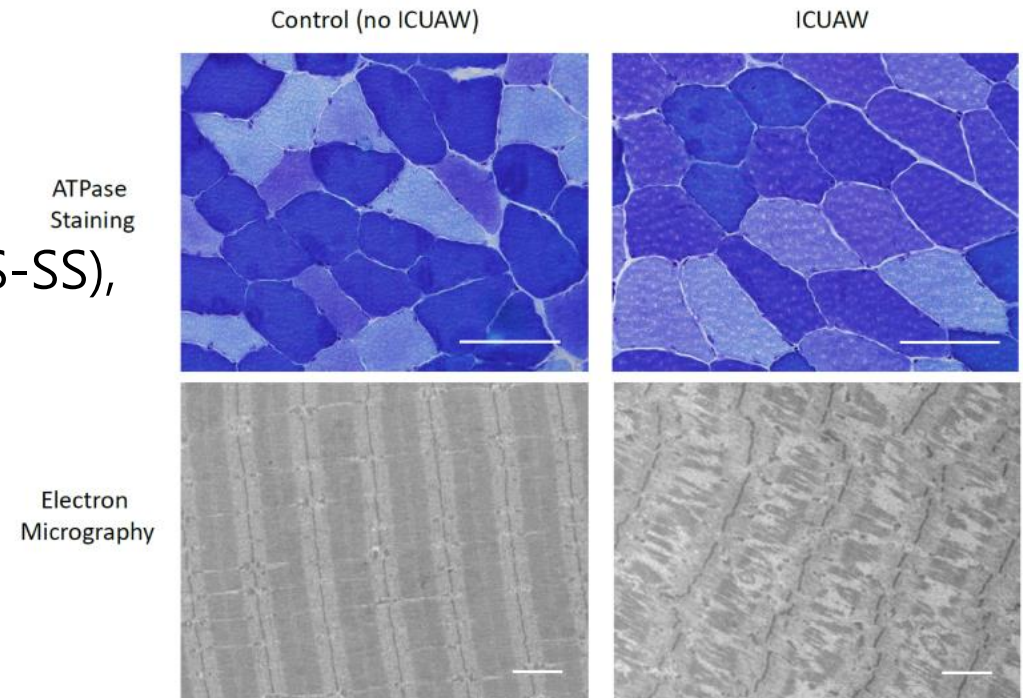


Figure 2 ATPase stained histologic sections and representative electron micrographs of critically ill patients with and without intensive care unit acquired weakness. Fiber types are differentiated by color (dark blue = I, intermediate blue = IIb, light blue = IIa). Scale bar indicates 100 μ m (ATPase stained histologic sections) and 2 μ m (electron micrographs).

- type I fibers \rightarrow type IIx fibers
- myosin filaments loss
- sarcomere structural damage

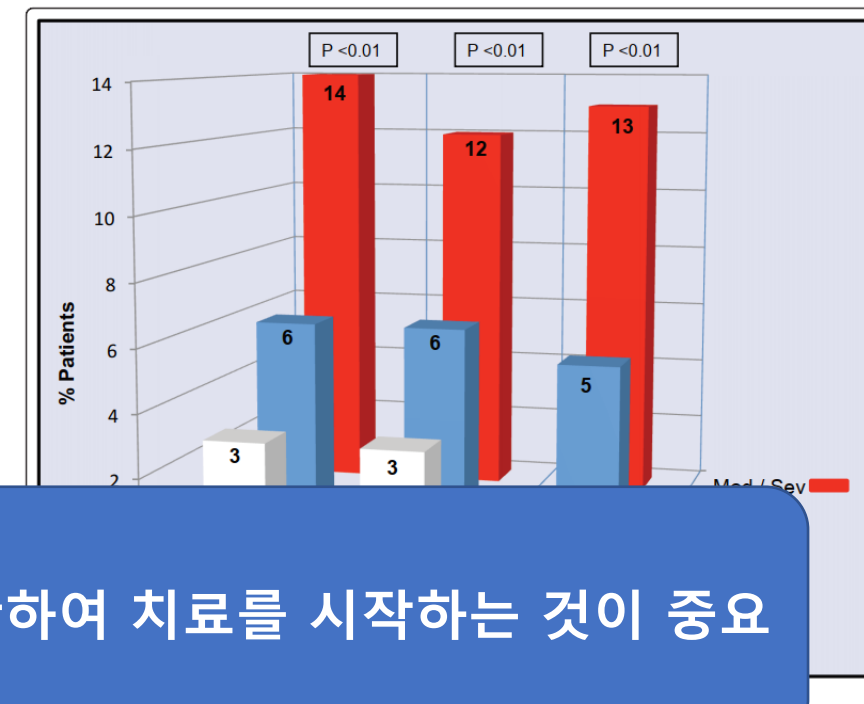
Muscular weakness and/or wasting in ICU

- **Ventilator induced diaphragmatic dysfunction (VIDD)**

- up to 80% of ICU-AW
- Ultrasound, inspiratory muscle force(NIF, MIP), phrenic nerve conduction study

- **Dysphagia**

- 3 to 62%
(12.4% in a general ICU, 18% in emergency admissions to the ICU)
- persistent dysphagia
at **ICU discharge > 80%**
at **hospital discharge > 60%**

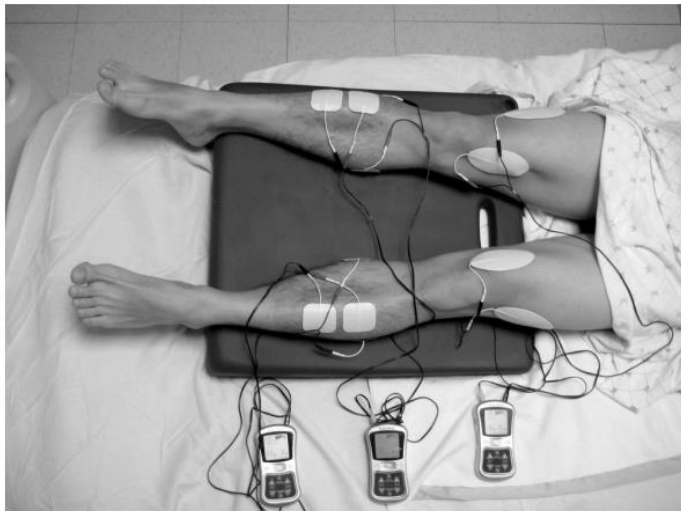


ICU-AW, VIDD, dysphagia는 ICU에서 예방 및 조기 진단하여 치료를 시작하는 것이 중요

Neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES)

• Therapeutic NMES

- ✓ Repeated application of **current** to produce **contraction** of innervated muscle by **depolarizing local motor nerves**. Repeated application may produce effects—for example, **muscle strengthening**.



• Functional NMES (FES)

- ✓ The use of electrical **current** to directly enable a **functional movement**. (such as U/Es for **activities of daily living (ADLs)** or L/Es for **gait**)



NMES

- **Motor point**

- the **smallest amount of current** is required to produce **muscle contraction**
- optimal sites for NMES to **maximize the evoked tension** and to **minimize pain**

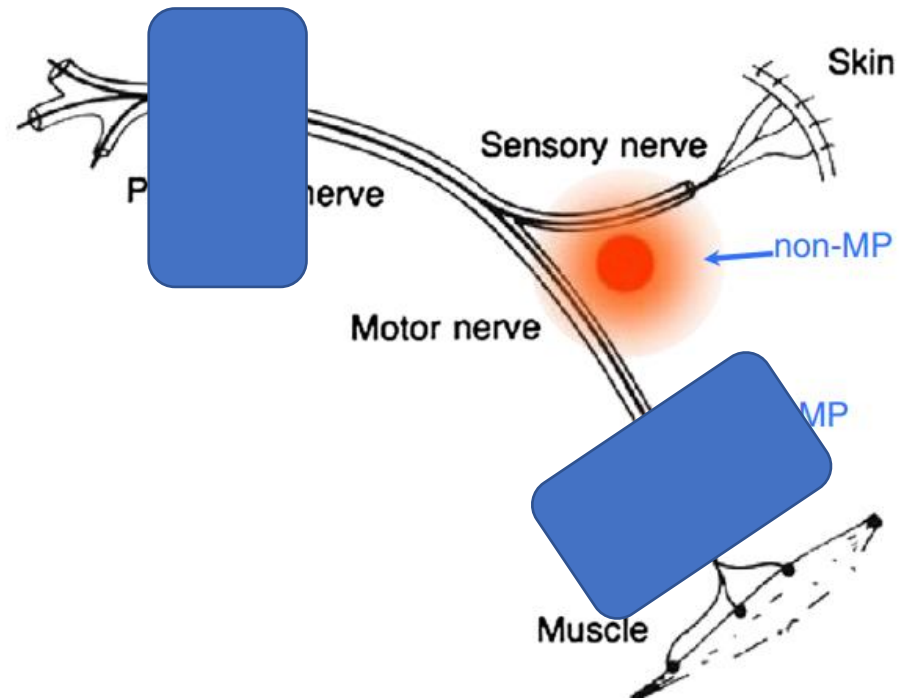


FIGURE 46.3 Schematic representation of a mixed peripheral nerve with different stimulation sites. The figure shows the selective activation of distal motor axons when stimulation via the motor point is provided (motor point stimulation). Stimulation on other sites (non-motor point stimulation) may require more current to reach the motor nerve branch and is more likely to concurrently excite sensory fibers conveying pain.

NMES

- activation threshold of the **alpha motor neuron axons**
→ contraction of muscle fibers (less excitable than motor nerve)
- **nerve endings more effectively** than the muscle
- only in the case of **denervated muscles** a direct muscle stimulation may occur

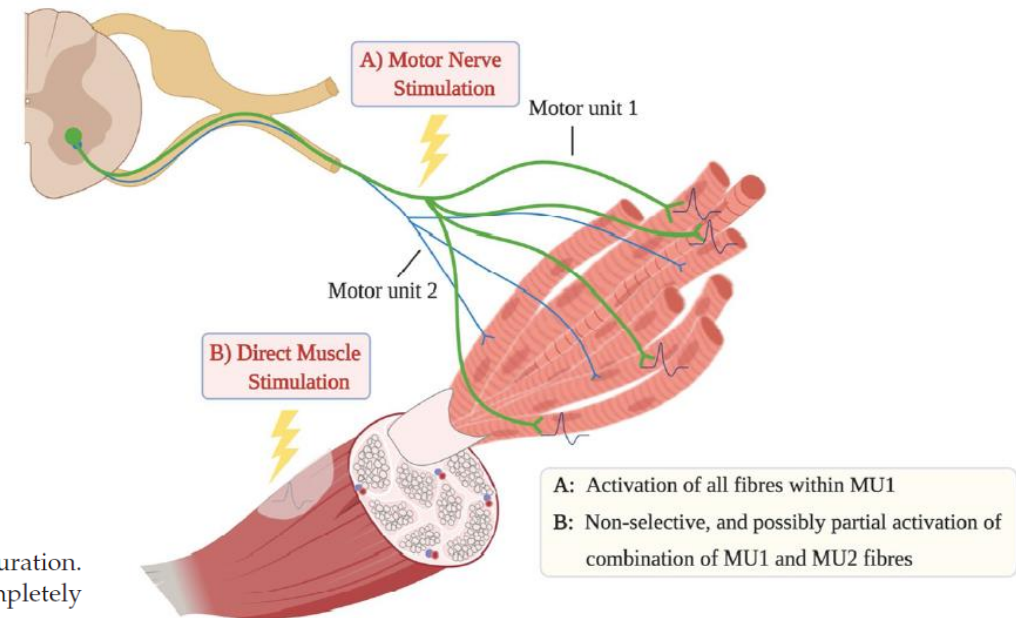
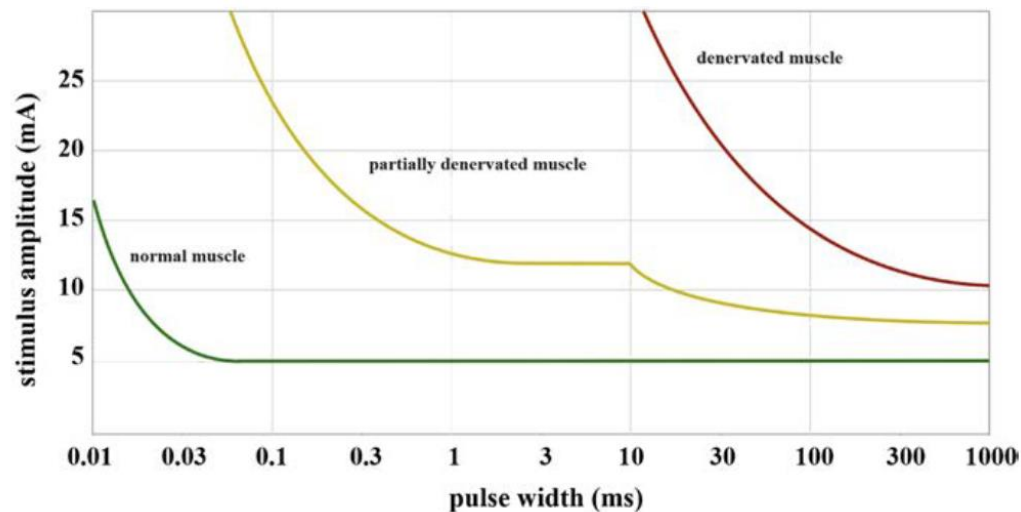


FIGURE 46.2 Strength–duration curves. The curves are obtained by plotting the relationship between pulse amplitude and pulse duration. The graphical representation allows to differentiate normally innervated muscles, partially denervated (or reinnervated) muscles, and completely denervated muscles.

Latronico N, Fagoni N, Gobbo M. **Chapter 46 - Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation in Critically Ill Patients.** In: Prabhakar H, editor. **Essentials of Neuroanesthesia.** Academic Press; 2017. p 771-81.

Guo Y, E Phillips B, Atherton PJ, Piasecki M. **Molecular and neural adaptations to neuromuscular electrical stimulation; Implications for ageing muscle.** *Mechanisms of Ageing and Development* 2021;193:111402.

NMES

- **Voluntary contractions**
 - a temporally **asynchronous**
 - spatially diffused pattern from **slow-twitch muscle fibers** to **fast-twitch muscle fibers**
 - from **small MUs** to **larger ones**
- **NMES**
 - temporally **synchronized**, spatially fixed, and **non-selective**
 - early recruitment of a **large number of fatigable fast-twitch fibers**

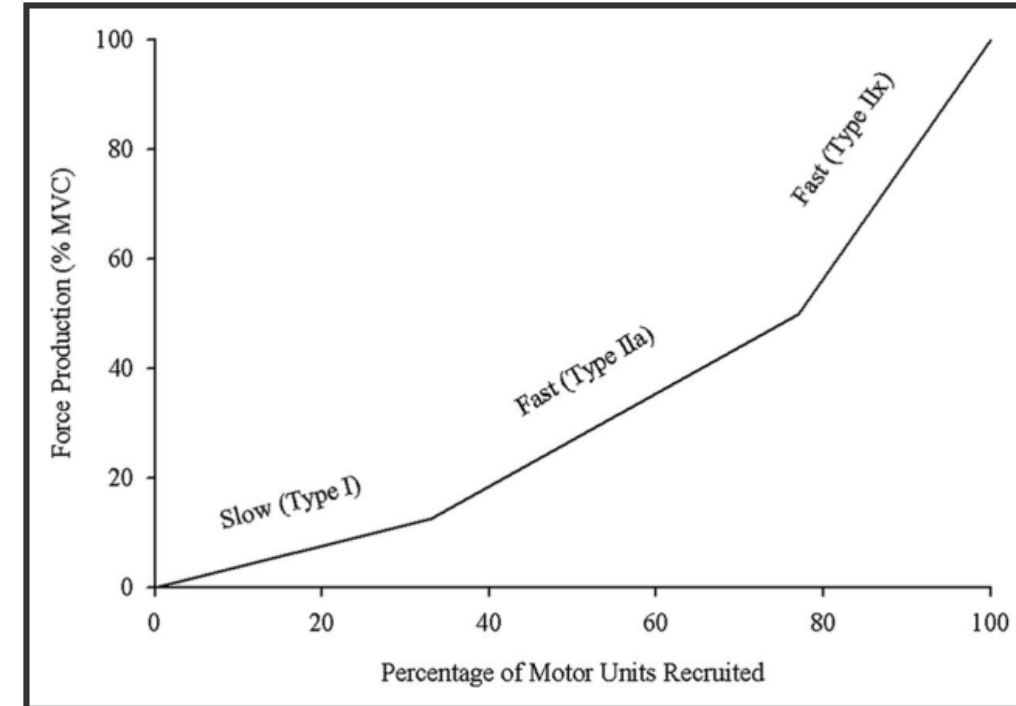


Figure 1.

Graphic representation of the orderly recruitment of motor units during voluntary activation of skeletal muscle as described by Henneman et al.⁹ Slow (type I), Fast (type IIa), and Fast (type IIb) motor units are represented. MVC= maximal voluntary contraction.

Electrode - placement

- **monopolar electrode**

- anode (+): proximally on the target muscle, over the innervating nerve
- cathode (-): on the motor point of the target muscle
- the waveform produces **more current flow** in either the positive or the negative direction (eg. biphasic **asymmetrical** unbalanced pulsed current)

- **bipolar electrode**

- anode and cathode: proximal and distal ends of the muscles (or muscle group)
- the waveform produces **equal current flow** in positive and negative directions

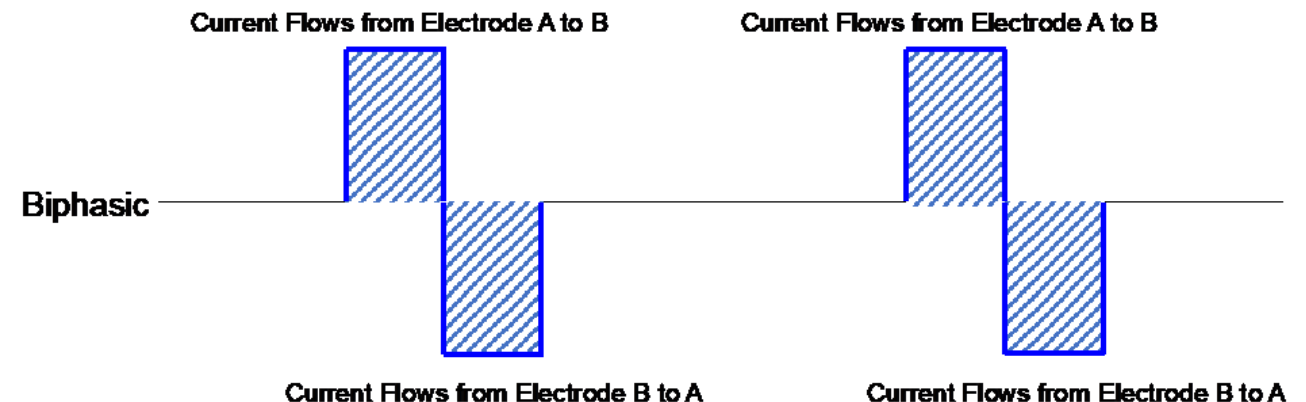
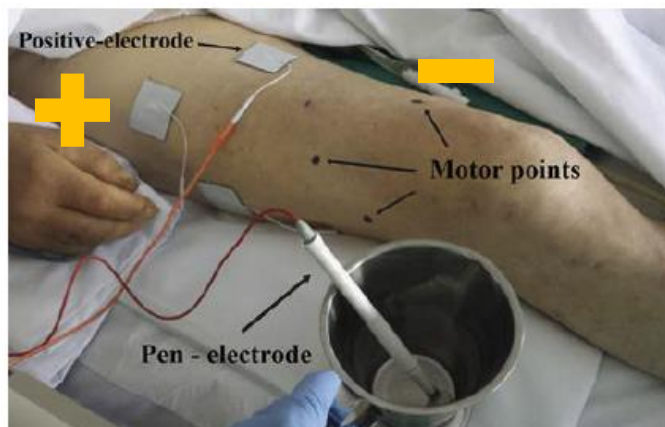
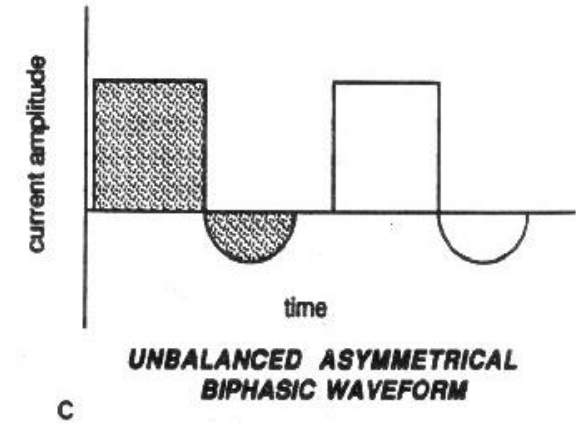
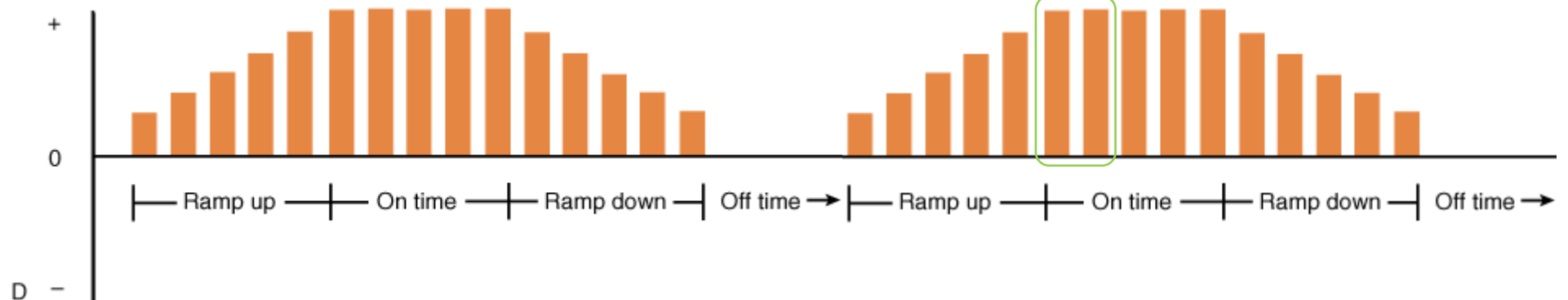
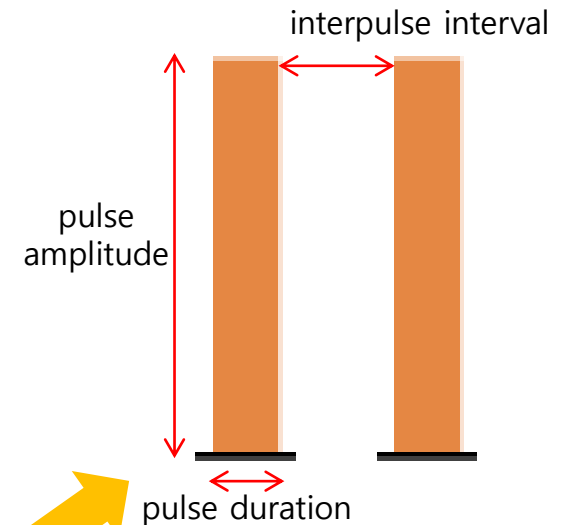


FIGURE 46.1 Transcutaneous neuromuscular electrical stimulation. The figure shows a commercially available pen-electrode (cathode) used for motor point identification. Self-adhesive pad electrodes (anodes) are placed proximally with respect to each muscle belly of the target muscles (vastus lateralis, rectus femoris, vastus medialis). The identified motor points for each muscle are highlighted.

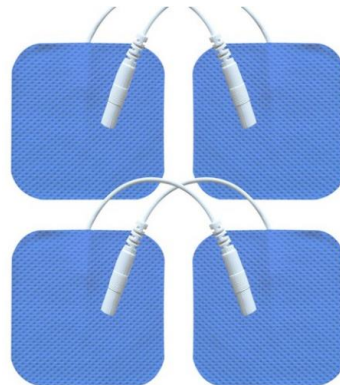
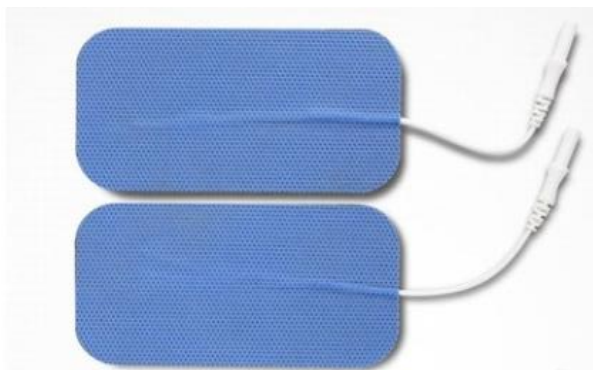
NMES parameters

- **frequency (Hz)**: the number of pulses in 1 second (30~70Hz)
- **pulse duration (pulse width, μs)**: the time elapsed from when the current leaves the isoelectric line until it returns to baseline. (200~400 μs)
- **pulse amplitude(intensity, mA or mV)**: the magnitude of the current(or voltage) deviation from isoelectric line (< 50mA)
- **ON time(s)**: the time over which a series of pulses is delivered
- **OFF time(s)**: the time over which no current is delivered
- **ON:OFF ratio**: higher ratio \rightarrow less muscle fatigue (1:2~1:8)
- **ramp-up/ramp-down time(s)**: commonly 1-2 seconds





Electrode - size



- target muscle size, depth, spread of current를 고려
- **larger** electrode (e.g., **5 x 10 cm**, 10 x 10 cm, or larger)
 - deeper current penetration, more comfortable (current density ↓)
 - larger muscles (e.g., quadriceps, hamstrings, lumbar spine)
- **smaller** electrode (e.g., **5 x 5 cm square** or 5 cm in diameter)
 - less comfortable (current density ↑), burn risk ↑
 - isolating specific muscles, medium-sized muscles (e.g., forearm, calf, shoulder girdle)





Electrode - placement



- parallel to the longitudinal direction of the muscle fibers
- cleaning of the skin
→ to reduce resistance to current flow
- if the desired muscle action is not elicited → move the electrodes

Electrode	Placement Site Instructions	Diagram
Posterior Deltoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use 2"X2" electrodes. • Landmark the AC joint. • One electrode goes to the back of this joint with the leads facing down. • The other electrode is placed below the first electrode and slightly medial with one finger width between the first electrode 	
Anterior Deltoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use 2" X 2" electrodes. • Landmark the AC joint. • One electrode goes to the front of the AC joint with the leads facing down. • The other electrode goes below the first one with a minimum 	



Electrode	Placement Site Instructions	Diagram
Biceps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place hand wrist up with elbow bent. • Electrodes are placed horizontally on the arm. • Place one electrode just above the bend of the elbow with the leads facing the inside of the body. • Place the second electrode a minimum of two finger widths above the first electrode. 	
Triceps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find the muscle belly. • Electrodes are placed horizontally on the arm. • One electrode is placed at the proximal portion (top most). • One electrode is placed at the distal (bottom most) portion of the tricep. 	



Electrode - placement

Electrode	Placement Site Instructions	Diagram
To open the hand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posterior side of forearm. • Place one electrode below the elbow bone. • Leads facing down. • Place the second electrode just above the wrist joint. 	
Wrist Flexion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anterior side of forearm. • Place one electrode on the medial side of the forearm with the lead down. • Place the second electrode two finger spaces above the wrist. 	

Electrode	Placement Site Instructions	Diagram
Abdominals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use 2"x3" electrodes • One electrode goes below the bottom rib. • The Second electrode is placed underneath the first electrode. Landmark position by using the ASIS. • Make sure not to place the electrode over folded skin. 	
Erector Spinae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrodes are placed vertically • Landmark the top of the hip bone and place the first electrode here • The second electrode is placed two fingers above the first electrode 	

Electrode - placement

Electrode	Placement Site Instructions	Diagram
Quadriceps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first electrode is placed horizontally two finger widths above the knee Make sure leads are facing the midline of the body (with some exceptions) The second electrode is placed a minimum of two finger widths apart centred in the quadriceps belly Use the largest electrode size for that individual 	
Hamstrings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These electrodes are placed directly under the quadriceps's electrodes centered on hamstrings Leads are facing the midline of the body (with some exceptions) 	

Tibialis Anterior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landmark this muscle by locating the tibial tuberosity (bony protrusion just below your knee) and the fibular head (bony protrusion lateral side of knee) and moving your fingers down and together until you feel the muscle belly. At this point place the first electrode vertically. Follow the muscle belly down and place the second electrode about 2/3 of the way down the shin with the leads facing toward the midline of the body 	
Gastrocnemius and Soleus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place first electrode horizontally just below the knee. Place second electrode minimum two finger widths below first electrode in the bulk belly of the soleus muscle. Alternate placement for gastrocnemius muscle= vertically placed electrodes on back of left leg (see diagram). 	

Electrode - placement

- <https://www.axelgaard.com/Education>

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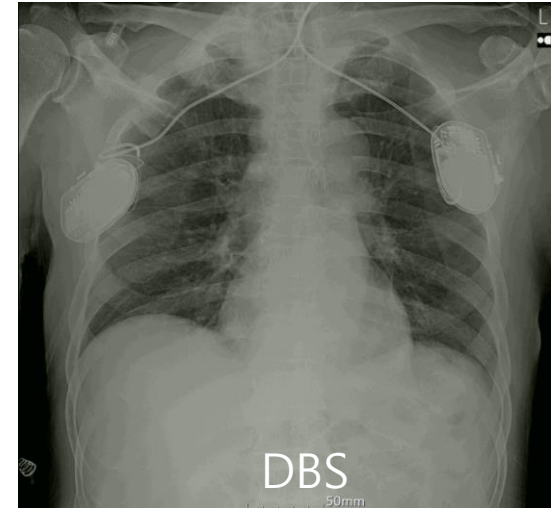
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- **Complication**

- skin response to NMES
 - redness, local edema, skin etching, skin injury d/t electrodes
 - unusual in awake patients

- **Contraindication**

- 1) interference with **electromedical devices**
: internal pacemaker, intracranial electrical stimulator, radiofrequency stimulators(spinal cord stimulators)
- 2) interference with **systemic disease**
: spastic paralysis, epilepsy (not adequately compensated)
- 3) local **pathological processes**
: acute phlebitis, areas of damaged or irritated skin
: near the carotid sinus, chest region in pts with arrhythmias & CHF, abdominal application in pregnancy





Evidence of NMES and Clinical Applications

NMES devices



특징

▶ Easy

- 2채널 방식
- 3단계만으로 전기 자극을 시작할 수 있어 쉽게 사용할 수 있습니다.

▶ Economic

- 근육 훈련과 통증 완화 기능이 함께 내장되어 있어 경제적입니다.

▶ Efficient

- 자극 부위별 최적의 프로그램이 내장되어 있어 효과적입니다.



• 규격

출 력 : Constant current, Maximum output 100mA

펄스파형 : Monophasic, Biphasic pulse

펄스 주파수 : 1-99Hz

펄스 폭 : 20-700us

원 업 : 0-59분

롤 다운 : 0-59분

램 업 : 0-59분

램 다운 : 0-9.9초

Burst On : 0.1 - 9.9초 (0.1초 단위), 10 - 59초 (1초 단위)

Burst Off : 0.1 - 9.9초 (0.1초 단위), 10 - 59초 (1초 단위)

최대 임피던스 범위 : 0-0.5kΩ

환자 허용 수준 : 0-100mA

최대 출력 : 0-100mA

펄스간 지연 시간 : 20~990us

Hand / Foot switch 지원

- marketed electrical simulators
 - : preprogrammed protocols
 - : protocol would not be updated after purchase

- stimulation amplitude, electrode placement 만 조정
→ NMES를 잘 이해하지 못해도 적용 가능.

- To achieve **desired clinical outcomes**, it is necessary to be able to **customize and modify** treatment based on the patient's characteristics.

NMES devices

- manual setting
- + TENS

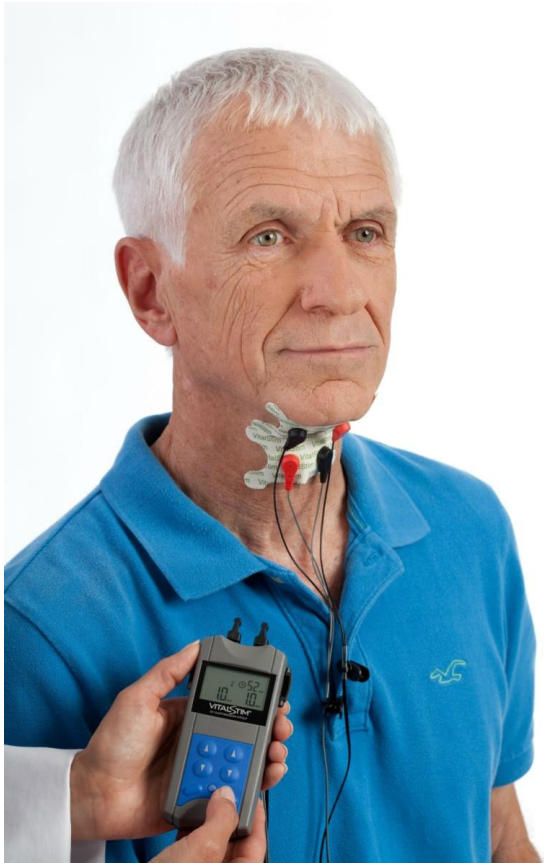


①	PROGRAM 1	
②	■ Therapy Time	20 min
③	■ Burst On	0.1 sec
④	■ Burst Off	40 sec
⑤	■ Pulse Rate	23 Hz
⑥	■ Width	300 μ s
⑦	■ Ramp Up	3.0 sec
⑧	■ Ramp Down	4.0 sec
⑨	■ Waveform	
⑩	■ Pulse Interval	120 μ s
⑪	■ Sync Delay Time	3.6 sec
⑫	■ Warm Up	30 min
⑬	■ Cool Down	20 min
⑭	■ External Switch	TG
⑮	■ Open-Close Delay	4.5 sec

A diagram of a human figure on a dark red background, showing the placement of four electrodes on the back, corresponding to the channels A, B, C, and D.

- ① PROGRAM : PROGRAM1, PROGRAM2 2가지 저장 번호를 나타냄
- ② Therapy Time : (0 ~ 99 Min / 1분 단위)
- ③ Burst On : (0.1 ~ 9.9 sec / 0.1 sec 단위), (10 ~ 59 sec / 1 sec 단위)
- ④ Burst Off : (0.1 ~ 9.9 sec / 0.1 sec 단위), (10 ~ 59 sec / 1 sec 단위)
- ⑤ Pulse Rate : (1 ~ 99 Hz / 1 Hz 단위)
- ⑥ Width : (20 ~ 700 μ s / 10 μ s 단위)
- ⑦ Ramp Up : (0 ~ 9.9 sec / 0.1 sec 단위)
- ⑧ Ramp Down : (0 ~ 9.9 sec / 0.1 sec 단위)
- ⑨ Waveform : (Biphasic, Monophasic)
 : Biphasic , : Monophasic
- ⑩ Pulse Interval : (20 ~ 990 μ s / 10 μ s 단위)
- ⑪ SyncDelay Time : (0 ~ 9.9 sec / 0.1 sec 단위), (10 ~ 59 sec / 1 sec 단위)
- ⑫ Warm Up : (0 ~ 59 min / 1 min 단위)
- ⑬ Cool Down : (0 ~ 59 min / 1 min 단위)

NMES devices for dysphagia



	 VitalStim Plus® \$3400.00 (DEVICE ONLY) / \$4450.00 (DEVICE + COURSES 1 and 2)	 Aspire² \$1381.00 (DEVICE ONLY) / \$1776.00 (DEVICE + COURSE)	 Unity™ \$888.00 (DEVICE ONLY) / \$1183.00 (DEVICE + COURSE)	 Ampcare \$599.00 (DEVICE ONLY) / \$649.00 (DEVICE + COURSE)	 eSwallow \$899.00 (DEVICE ONLY) / \$1178.00 (DEVICE + COURSE + SELF STUDY)
channels of stimulation	4	1	2	2	2
neuromuscular electrical stimulation	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
surface electromyography	yes	yes	no	no	no
sEMG triggered stimulation	yes	yes	no	no	no
rechargeable	yes	yes	no	no	no
NMES programs	1 VitalStim® protocol customizable programs	4 Guardian® protocols 1 customizable program	6 Guardian® protocols 1 alternative protocol	3 Ampcare protocols	1 eSwallow protocol

NMES devices for dysphagia



개인용 치료기기

- NMES (strength, dysphagia)
- TENS
- Low price, unknown parameter



겨주파자극기와 연결하여 사용하는 모습



Safety

- **safe** for critically ill patients
- should be applied by **well trained professionals**
- proper **evidence-based parameters**

Table 2 - Description of selected studies

Study	Groups	Patients (n)	Main objective of study	Intervention parameters	Outcome for safety
Rodriguez et al. ^[23]	G1: NMES on one side of the body (contralateral side as control)	Total: 16	To assess the effects of NMES on the muscle strength of patients with sepsis under IMV	Frequency 100Hz; pulse duration 300µs; amplitude 20 - 200v; biphasic impulse; intensity controlled by visible or palpable contraction; stimulus applied twice per day for 30 minutes Brachial biceps and quadriceps vastus medialis muscles Application from IMV day 2 until extubation	Adverse effects: superficial burn in a single patient after the first NMES session due to improper configuration
Abu-Khabber et al. ^[25]	G1: conventional treatment G2: conventional treatment + NMES	Total: 80 G1: 40 G2: 40	To assess the effects of NMES on the peripheral muscles of critically ill patients	Frequency 50Hz; pulse duration 200µs; biphasic symmetrical impulse; duration 15 seconds (1 second rise and 1 second fall); intensity controlled by visible or palpable contraction; stimulus applied once per day for 60 minutes Bilateral quadriceps Application from IMV day 2 to ICU discharge	Adverse effects: six patients (15%) reported a prickling sensation , which was not clinically significant
Akar et al. ^[26]	G1: active mobilization + NMES G2: NMES G3: active mobilization	Total: 30 G1: 10 G2: 10 G3: 10	To compare the efficacy of active mobilization, active mobilization + NMES and NMES alone on muscles, ventilation weaning and NMES response to inflammation among critically ill patients with COPD	Frequency 50Hz; amplitude 20mA and 25mA; symmetrical biphasic square waves; duration 6 seconds (1.5 second rise and 0.75 second fall); stimulus applied five times per week Bilateral deltoid and quadriceps Application from IMV day 2 to ICU discharge	Hemodynamic variables: HR significantly decreased in G2; no changes in RR before or after intervention in any group
Stefanou et al. ^[27]	G1: high frequency G2: medium frequency	Total: 36 G1: 18 G2: 18	To investigate the effects of NMES on the mobilization of endothelial progenitor cells among critically ill patients with sepsis	G1: frequency 75Hz, 6 seconds on and 21 seconds off; G2: frequency 45Hz, 5 seconds on and 12 seconds off; biphasic impulse and pulse width 400µs; intensity defined as the maximum tolerated One single 40-minute session Vastus lateralis and peroneus longus	Hemodynamic variables: slight increase of HR and RR ; MAP remained the same in both groups. Slight increase in blood lactate in both groups

NMES - neuromuscular electrical stimulation; G - group; IMV - invasive mechanical ventilation; ICU - intensive care unit; COPD - chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; HR - heart rate; RR - respiratory rate; MAP - mean arterial pressure

NMES in ICU

- prevention of **atrophy**
 - type 1 and type 2 muscle fiber
- improvement of **skeletal muscle weakness**
 - the synthesis of muscle proteins ↑
 - muscle microcirculation ↑
- prevention of **shoulder subluxation**
- **non-invasive**
- does not require **patients' cooperation** or stable **cardiac or respiratory function**



Muscle strength

- 11 RCTs, 576 patients
- **'NMES' vs 'sham NMES'**
- enhancing muscle strength, shortening the MV duration, ICU LOS, hospital LOS

Review

Intervention effect of neuromuscular electrical stimulation on ICU acquired weakness: A meta-analysis

Miao Liu ^{a, b}, Jian Luo ^{b, *}, Jun Zhou ^a, Xiaomin Zhu ^a

^a School of Nursing, Yangtze University, Hubei, China

^b Affiliated Union Hospital of Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Hubei, China

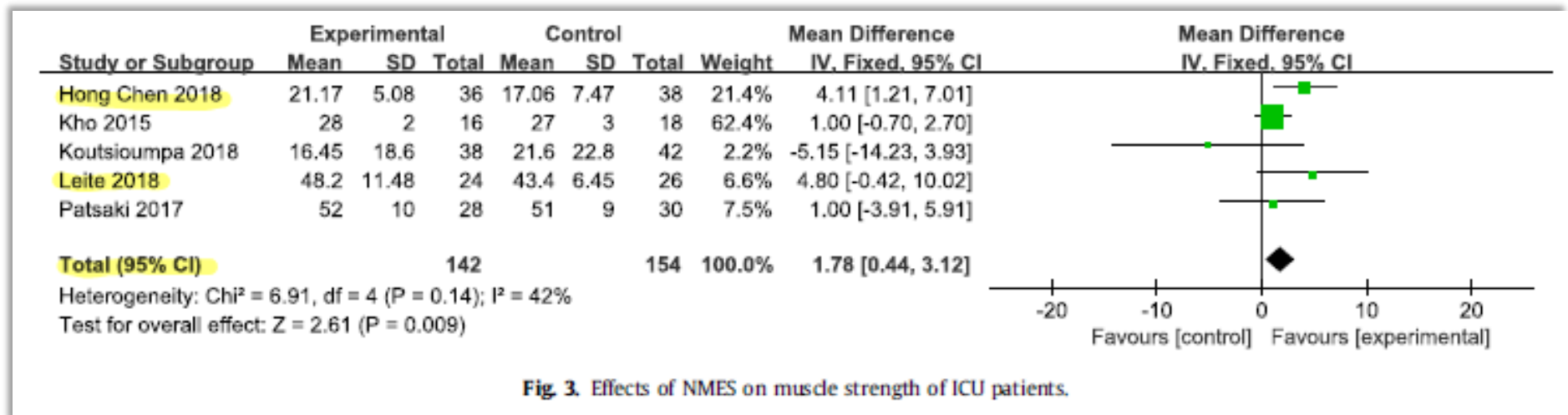
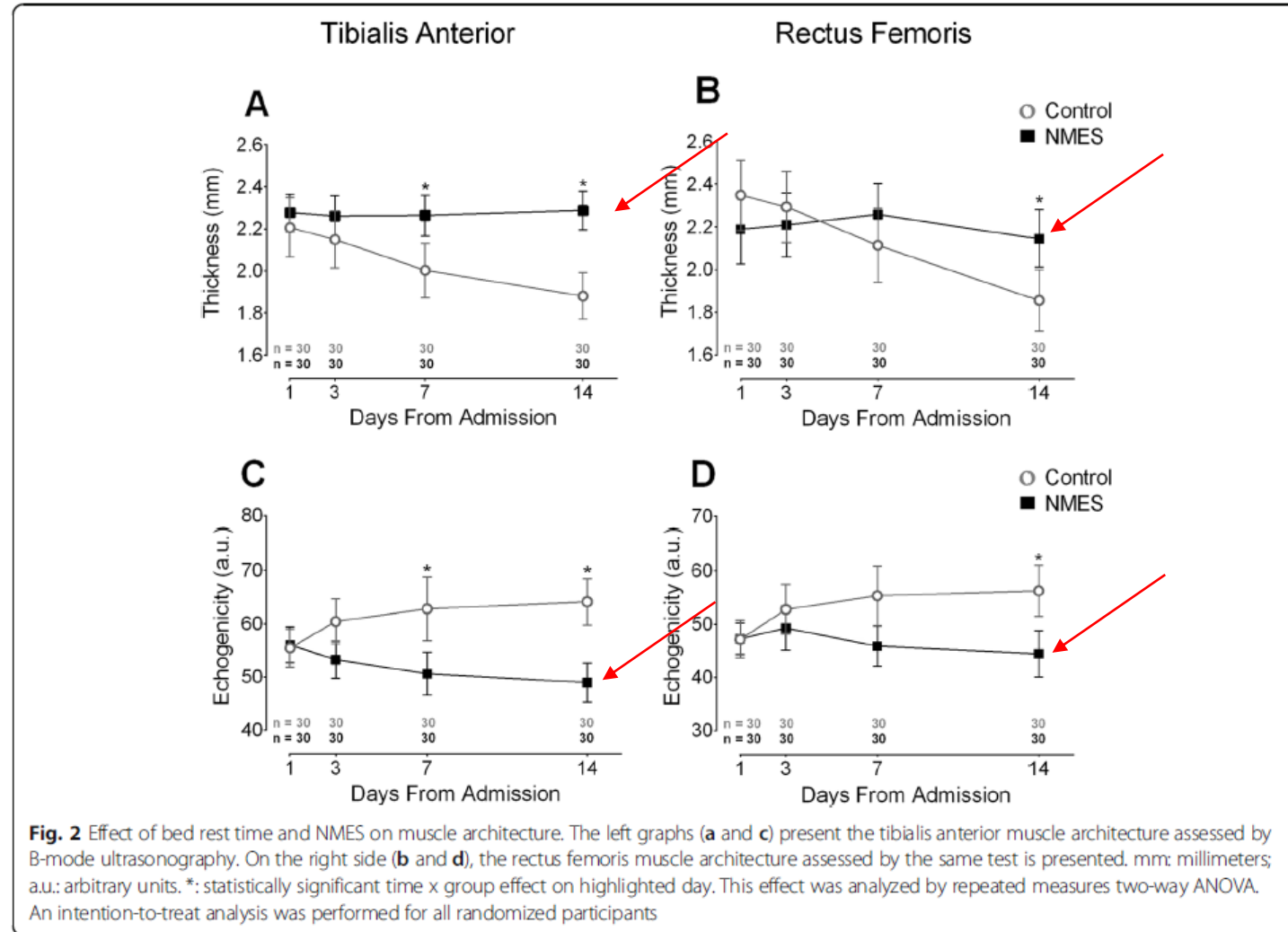
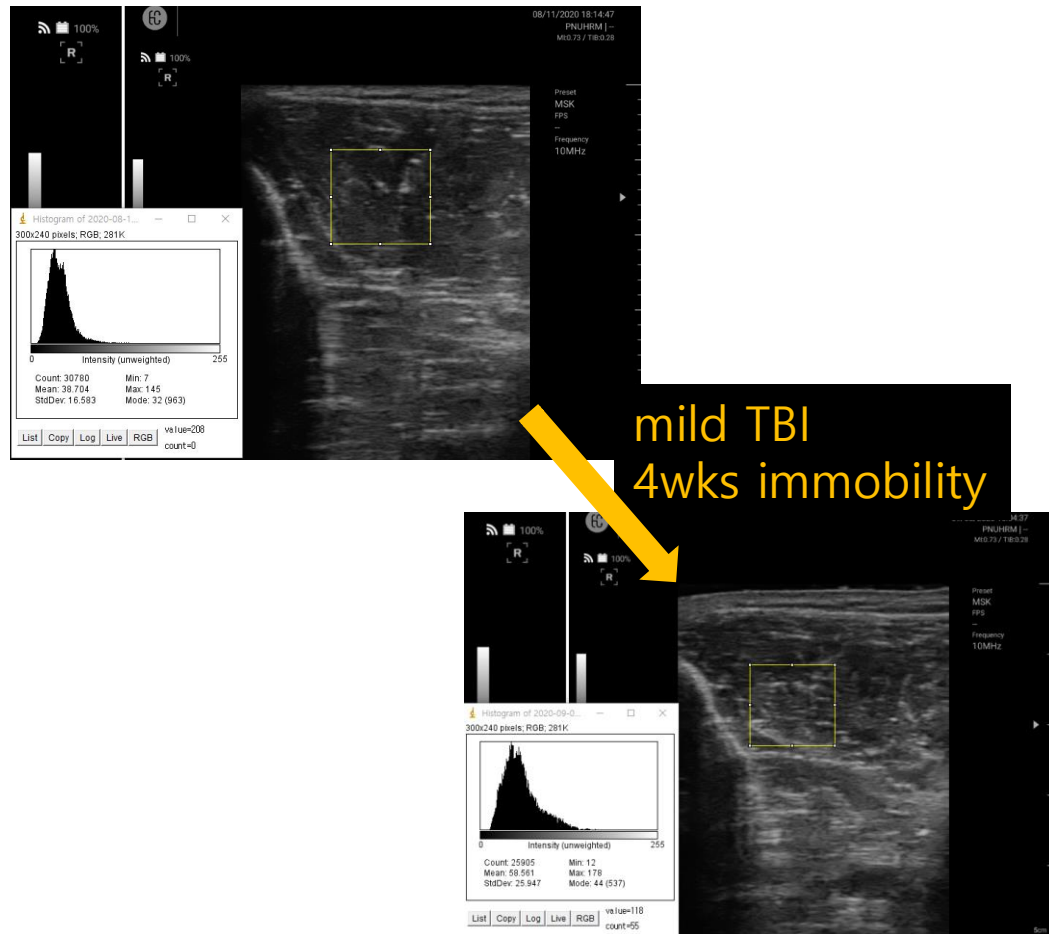


Fig. 3. Effects of NMES on muscle strength of ICU patients.

Muscle strength

- TBI patients



Muscle strength

- Limb position
 - **mid-range** of muscle length to produce the strongest muscle contraction (e.g. knee, 65° flexion, sitting position)
 - very weak muscles
 - MMT - Trace, Poor grade: gravity-assisted or **gravity neutral** position
 - MMT - Fair grade: **gravity-resisted** position



Muscle strength - parameter recommendations

- **quadriceps**, hamstring, calf
- frequency: 50Hz
- pulse duration: 350~400µs
- ON-OFF ratio: 1:2~1:3 (ON 6~12s, OFF 8~24s)
- intensity: max tolerated intensity
- duration: 30~60min/d, daily

Table 15 Summary of the Literature and Recommendations for Use of NMES in Critical Illness and Advanced Disease States

Indication	Parameter Recommendations	Outcome Measures Demonstrating Benefit
Advanced COPD, heart failure, sepsis, consciousness disturbance, malignant disease, and during mechanical ventilation	<p>Electrode placement: LE muscle groups bilaterally; primarily quads, frequently also hams and calf muscles</p> <p>Limb position: ICU patients in supine with knee supported in 30–40° flex;^{166,167} CHF patients sitting with knee flex 90°;^{168,169} COPD patients sitting with knee flex 65–90°^{170–172}</p> <p>Waveform: biphasic low-frequency PC</p> <p>Frequency: 50 Hz^{166,169–180}</p> <p>Pulse duration: 350–400 µs</p> <p>Work–rest cycle: COPD patients, ON:OFF 6–8:12–24 s (1:2 or 1:3 ratio; shorter ON times paired with shorter OFF times); ICU and CHF patients, ON:OFF 2–5:4–10 s (1:1 or 1:2 ratio; shorter ON times paired with shorter OFF times)</p> <p>Treatment schedule: 30–60 min/d. Alternatively, 30 min, gradually increasing to 60 min.^{169,170,175,177,180} Total time divided among the muscle groups.</p> <p>Session frequency: COPD patients, 5–7 d/wk for 6–8 wk; ICU patients, daily until extubation or D/C from ICU; CHF patients, 5–7 d/wk for 8–10 wk.</p> <p>Current amplitude: individual max tolerated intensity. For COPD patients, a strong muscle contraction is the minimum acceptable response; in the ICU, a muscle contraction is not always observed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muscle protein degradation (urinalysis; biomarker analysis)^{181,182} • Thigh circumference (CT)^{167,183} • Cross-sectional area (by CT but not when measured by anthropometry or DEXA scan)^{169,172,175,184,185} • Strength of LE muscles (isometric or isotonic dynamometry, MRC score),^{169,170,172–174,176,178,179,185–192} Ex capacity (6MWT, Incremental Shuttle Walking Distance, Endurance Shuttle Walk Test)^{168,170,171,173,174,178,180,186,189,190} • Prevention of muscle atrophy (US, biopsy)^{166,168,177,182} • Levels of function (transfers, PFIT)^{179,190,192,193} • Cardiopulmonary function (O₂ uptake, min ventilation, heart rate, Borg Symptom Score, spirometry)^{168,171,186,192} • Breathlessness (MRC dyspnoea scale, SGRQ, Borg Scale, Mageri Foundation Respiratory Failure Questionnaire)^{178,189} • Duration of weaning from ventilation and decreased ICU length of stay^{185,193} • QOL (SF-36, Chronic Respiratory Questionnaire, Mageri Foundation Respiratory Failure Questionnaire)^{168–171,178,189–191} • Safety and feasibility¹⁹⁴

PNUH

- early day of ICU admission
- sedated patient
- severe weakness and atrophy (MMT < poor)
- neurological disorder (e.g. TBI, stroke, SCI)



“NMES”



- awakening and good cooperation
- MMT ≥ poor



**“NMES
+ exercise”**



- NMES는 적은 인력으로 치료 양적인 측면에서 긍정적인 요소를 제공
- 근력이 호전될 수록 운동시간을 늘려가는 방향으로 적용.

Respiratory muscle

- **pectoralis major and rectus abdominis m.**
 - frequency 50Hz, pulse duration 300 μ s
 - ramp on 1s, ON time 3s, ramp down 1s, OFF time 10s
 - session duration 30min
 - **“NMES + Rehab” vs “sham NMES + Rehab”**
- **muscle thickness(US) was preserved, shorter ICU LOS**



Fig. 2. Representative image of the positioning of electrodes on the straight muscles of the abdomen and chest to perform the protocol.

Table III. Comparison of muscle thickness between groups

Variables	Intervention group (n = 11)			p-value ^a	Conventional group (n = 14)			p-value ^a	Interaction effect (group vs time)	
	Baseline	End	Difference in mean (95% CI)		Baseline	End	Difference in mean (95% CI)		Difference between groups (95% CI)	Adjusted p-value ^b
CT	0.44 (0.28)	0.49 (0.28)	0.05 (-0.00 to 0.10)	0.083	0.42 (0.17)	0.35 (0.16)	-0.06 (-0.10 to -0.02)	<0.001	0.11 (0.04 to 0.18)	<0.001
AT	0.47 (0.28)	0.51 (0.26)	0.04 (-0.02 to 0.10)	0.505	0.43 (0.19)	0.36 (0.17)	-0.07 (-0.10 to -0.04)	<0.001	0.09 (0.06 to 0.12)	<0.001

^aIntra-group effect using a generalized estimating equations (GEE) model with Bonferroni's correction; ^bintergroup effect using a generalized estimating equations (GEE) model with Bonferroni's correction adjusted for APACHE II, sepsis end ICU stay. All ultrasound measurements expressed in cm. CT: chest muscle thickness; AT: abdominal muscle thickness; 95% CI: 95% confidence interval; SD: standard deviation.

Respiratory muscle



FIGURE 2: Neuromuscular electrical stimulation: (a) quadriceps and (b) diaphragm.

- Control vs Quadriceps NMES vs Diaphragm NMES
- Diaphragm parameter
 - frequency 30Hz
 - ramp on 1s, ON time 1s, ramp down 1s, OFF time 20s
 - session duration 45min
- Electrode placement
 - 7th-8th intercostal space
 - Rt./Lt. side of the xiphoid proc. and midaxillary line

TABLE 2: Comparison of the variables analyzed between groups.

Variables	CG (n = 26)	DG (n = 17)	QG (n = 24)	p
Sedation (hours)	7.6 ± 4.64	11.5 ± 10.55	12.2 ± 11.25	0.3248
MV duration (hours)	15.8 ± 5.75 ^a	27.5 ± 12.16 ^b	23.3 ± 10.61 ^b	0.0001
ICU length of stay (days)	12.8 ± 7.83	12.4 ± 4.45	9.7 ± 4.92	0.0998
Hospital length of stay (days)	25.4 ± 12.04 ^a	29.3 ± 13.59 ^a	18.2 ± 11.28 ^b	0.0031
Minute volume (L/min)	9.8 ± 5.4	11.7 ± 5.2	10.3 ± 4.7	
Last minute volume (L/min)	11.9 ± 3.9	14.1 ± 6.9	12.8 ± 5.1	0.995
Minute volume (L/min), ext. day	13.1 ± 7.4	15.2 ± 7.2	13.2 ± 5.9	
First MIP (cmH ₂ O)	-24.6 ± 14.13 ^a	-23.2 ± 10.88 ^a	-21.7 ± 11.68 ^a	
Last MIP, ICU discharge (cmH ₂ O)	-25.9 ± 9.59	-37.9 ± 10.31 ^b	-40.4 ± 8.71 ^b	0.00003
MIP, extubation day (cmH ₂ O)	-25.9 ± 9.79	-29.1 ± 15.33	-30.8 ± 10.7	
First RSBI (rpm/l)	57.9 ± 40.42	43.2 ± 18.29	54.0 ± 34.15	
Last RSBI, ICU discharge (rpm/l)	52.1 ± 28.85	35.9 ± 14.17	48.9 ± 32.4	0.88708
RSBI (rpm/l), extubation day	53.6 ± 20.96	44.0 ± 19.45	56.9 ± 28.57	
First MRC	36.2 ± 5.55 ^a	32.7 ± 7.22 ^a	33.2 ± 8.47 ^a	0.00044
Last MRC, ICU discharge	43.4 ± 6.45 ^b	41.8 ± 11.14 ^b	48.2 ± 11.48 ^b	
Barthel	15.8 ± 14.04 ^a	23.8 ± 24.97 ^a	40.6 ± 30.08 ^b	0.0049
FSS-ICU	14.6 ± 8.01 ^a	21.5 ± 10.16 ^a	29.1 ± 12.38 ^b	0.001
In-bed transfers	2.2 ± 1.48 ^a	3.2 ± 1.60	4.5 ± 2.00 ^b	0.0003
Supine-to-sit transfer	2.0 ± 1.41 ^a	3.1 ± 1.55	4.3 ± 1.86 ^b	0.0001
Sitting at the bedside	2.4 ± 1.65 ^a	3.5 ± 1.54	4.8 ± 1.83 ^b	0.001
Unsupported sitting	3.6 ± 1.71 ^a	4.8 ± 1.57	5.2 ± 1.75 ^b	0.0037
Locomotion	1.1 ± 1.33 ^a	2.3 ± 1.85	3.6 ± 2.33 ^b	0.0001
GCS, ICU discharge	13.0 ± 1.64	12.7 ± 1.92	13.2 ± 1.87	0.5480

Respiratory muscle

- **Transcutaneous electrical diaphragmatic stimulation (TEDS)** vs Standard weaning protocol
- **Cervical SCI** (AIS A, total 10)
- Parameters
 - frequency 30Hz, pulse width 1ms,
 - ramp up 0.7ms, intensity 60mA
 - Rt./Lt. midaxillary line, 7th-8th intercostal line
 - twice/day, 20min, 7d/week
 - **manually trigger**

→ duration of MV ↓, ICU LOS ↓



Dualpex 961 Phrenics (Quark®).

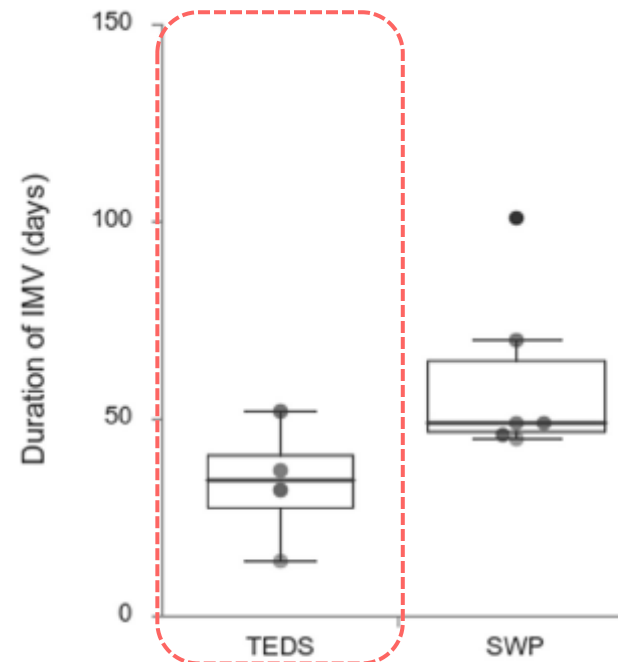


Fig. 2 The ordinate indicates the duration of invasive mechanical ventilation (IMV) in days. SWP standard weaning protocol, TEDS transcutaneous electrical diaphragmatic stimulation.

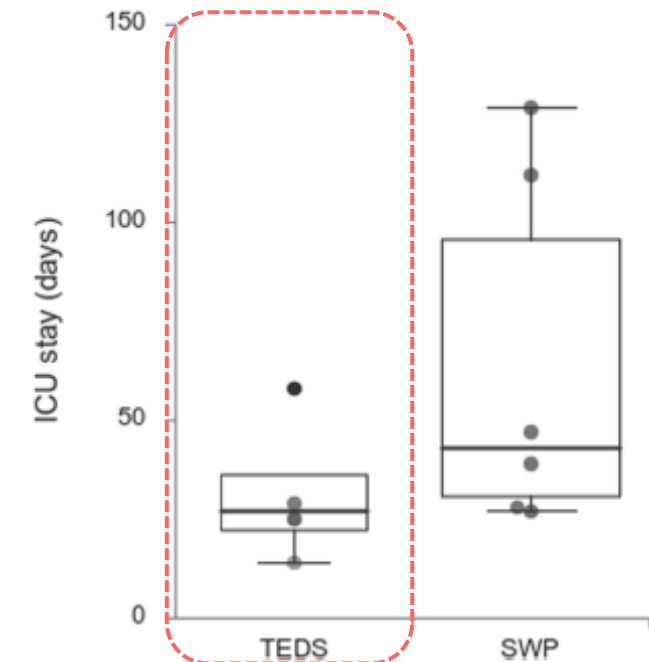
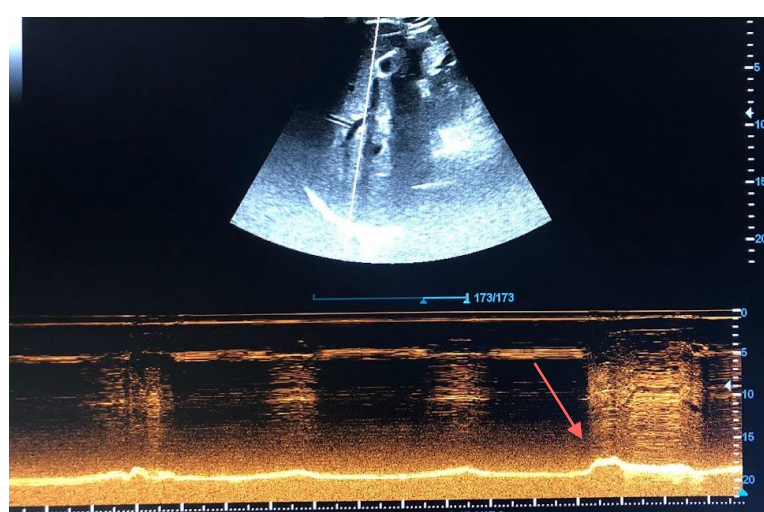
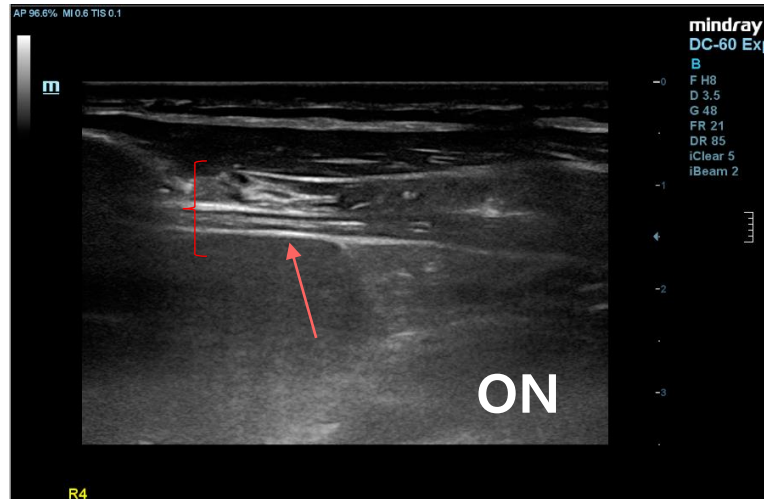
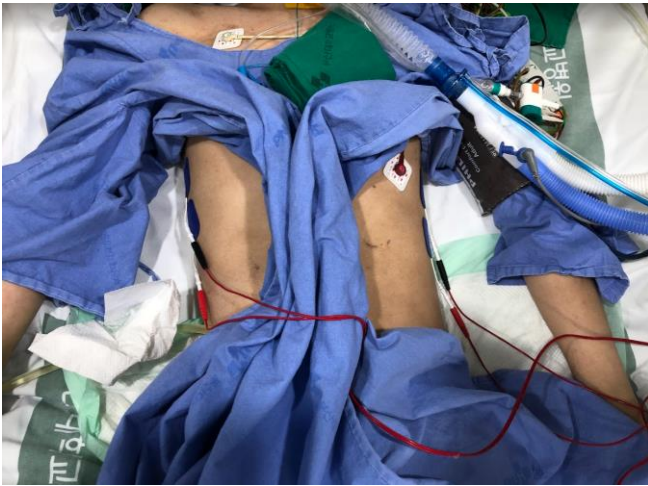


Fig. 3 The ordinate indicates the duration of length of stay in intensive care unit (ICU) in days. SWP standard weaning protocol, TEDS transcutaneous electrical diaphragmatic stimulation.

- M/22, TBI /c CNS infection, difficult to wean pt.
- midaxillary line, zone of apposition



- frequency 30Hz
- pulse duration 300 μ s
- ramp on 1s, ON time 2s, ramp down 1s, OFF time 10s

PNUH

- cervical spinal cord injury
- post-extubation management: weak cough pt.
- long-term MV



Dysphagia

- Treatment in ICU
 - Swallowing exercise
 - **Electrical stimulation of swallowing muscle**
 - **Smaller cannula in tracheostomized patients**
 - Smaller (thinner) gastric feeding tube
 - Surface EMG swallowing biofeedback



Fiberoptic endoscopic evaluation of swallowing (FEES) in ICU



Dysphagia

- **NMES of swallowing muscle**
 - **Motor contraction**
 - intensity increased until **muscle contraction** occurs strength swallowing related **muscle of hyolaryngeal complex**
 - **Sensory approach**
 - lowest current level at which the **patient feels tingling sense**
 - sensory stimulation effects on the **long-term reorganization to trigger swallowing reflex**



Dysphagia

- NMES of swallowing muscle
 - Ampcare parameter: manual setting



	VitalStim Plus®		Aspire ²		Unity™		Ampcare		eSwallow	
	DEVICE ONLY	DEVICE + COURSES 1 and 2	DEVICE ONLY	DEVICE + COURSE	DEVICE ONLY	DEVICE + COURSE	DEVICE ONLY	DEVICE + COURSE	DEVICE ONLY	DEVICE + COURSE + SELF STUDY
channels of stimulation	4		1		2		2		2	
neuromuscular electrical stimulation	yes		yes		yes		yes		yes	
surface electromyography	yes		yes		no		no		no	
sEMG triggered stimulation	yes		yes		no		no		no	
rechargeable	yes		yes		no		no		no	
NMES programs	1 VitalStim® protocol customizable programs		4 Guardian® protocols 1 customizable program		6 Guardian® protocols 1 alternative protocol		3 Ampcare protocols		1 eSwallow protocol	

Dysphagia

- **NMES of swallowing muscle**

- **Electrode placement: submental region**

suprahyoid muscle group – ant. diagastric and mylohyoid, geniohyoid m.

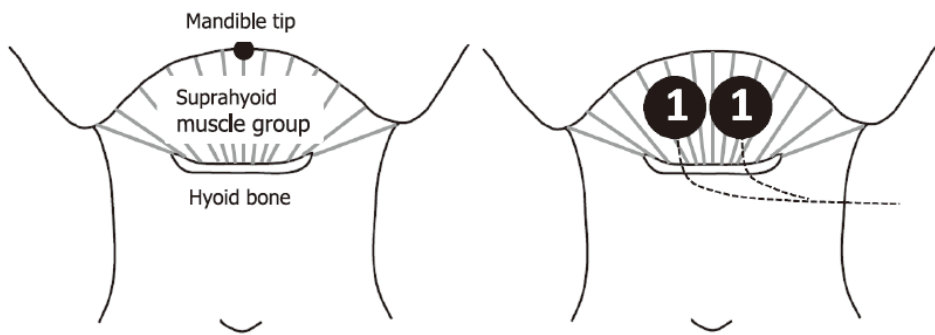


Table 1. Ampcare ESP™ neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES) stimulation parameters.

Frequency (Hz)	30
Phase duration (µsec)	50
Ramp up (seconds)	1
Ramp down (seconds)	0
Cycle on time (seconds)	5
Cycle off time (seconds)	Initially 25, reduced to 20 and then 15 seconds if patient able to reliably generate a swallow during each 'on-time'
Program duration (minutes)	30 (with breaks after each 10-minute block)
Intensity	0–20 depending on patients' individual tolerance

Dysphagia

- **NMES of swallowing muscle**
+ Laryngeal exercises
(chin to chest(shaker), effortful swallowing)



Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS)

- **musculoskeletal and neuropathic pain**
 - 'gate control' theory of pain
 - produces pain relief **by releasing endorphins in the spinal cord**

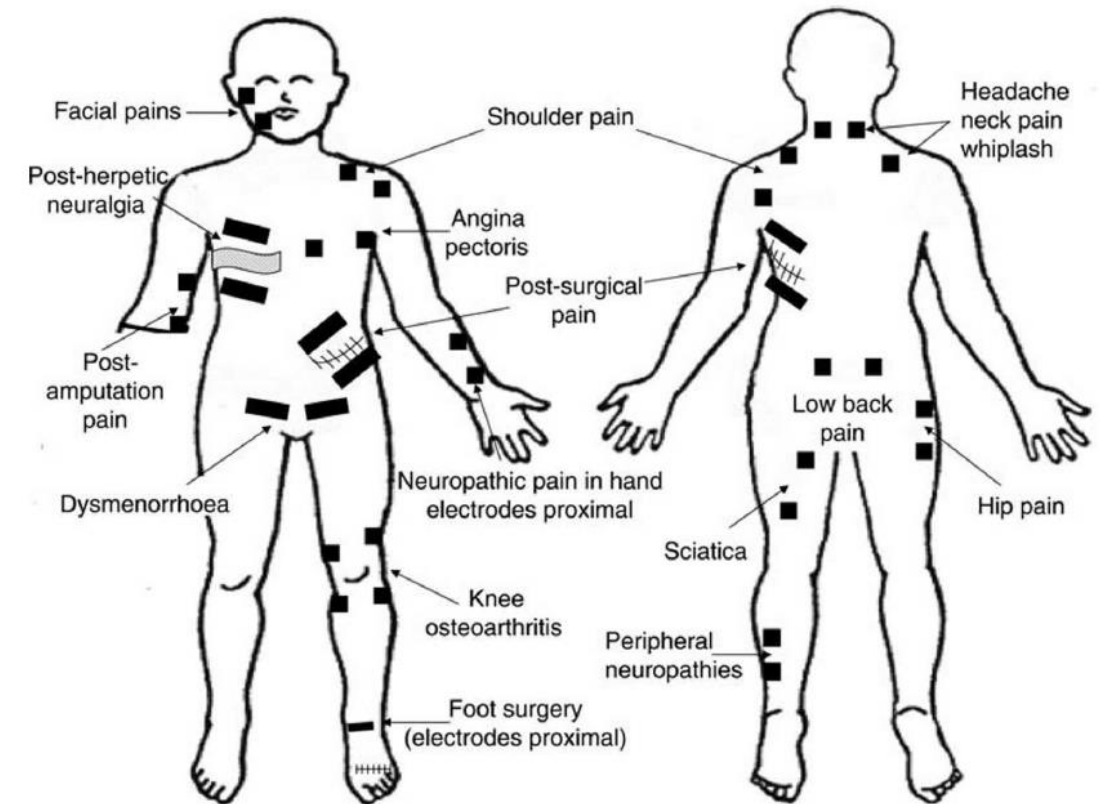


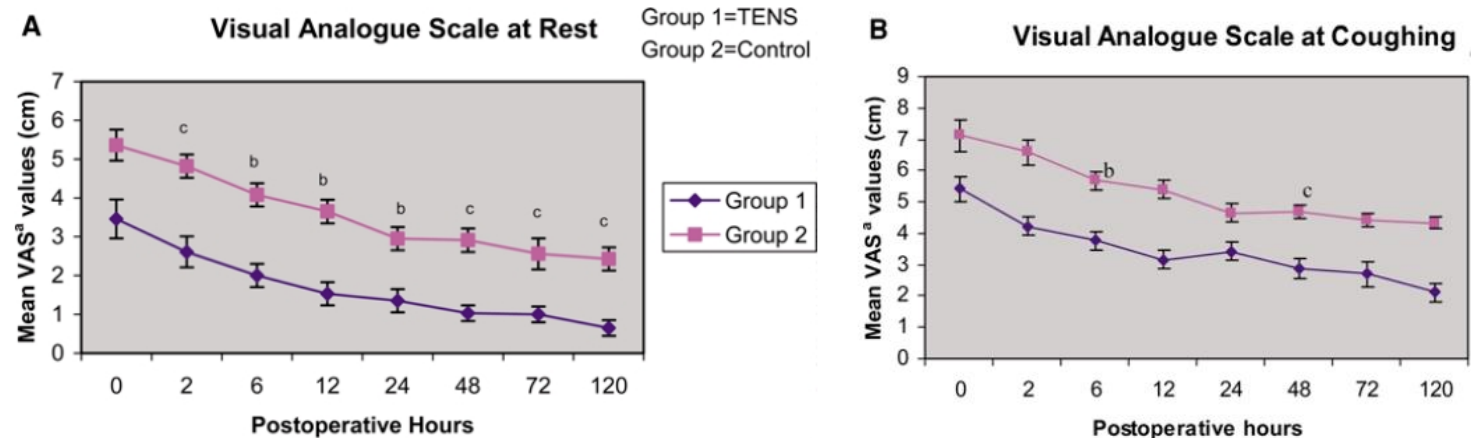
Fig 4 Frequently used sites for TENS therapy.

TENS

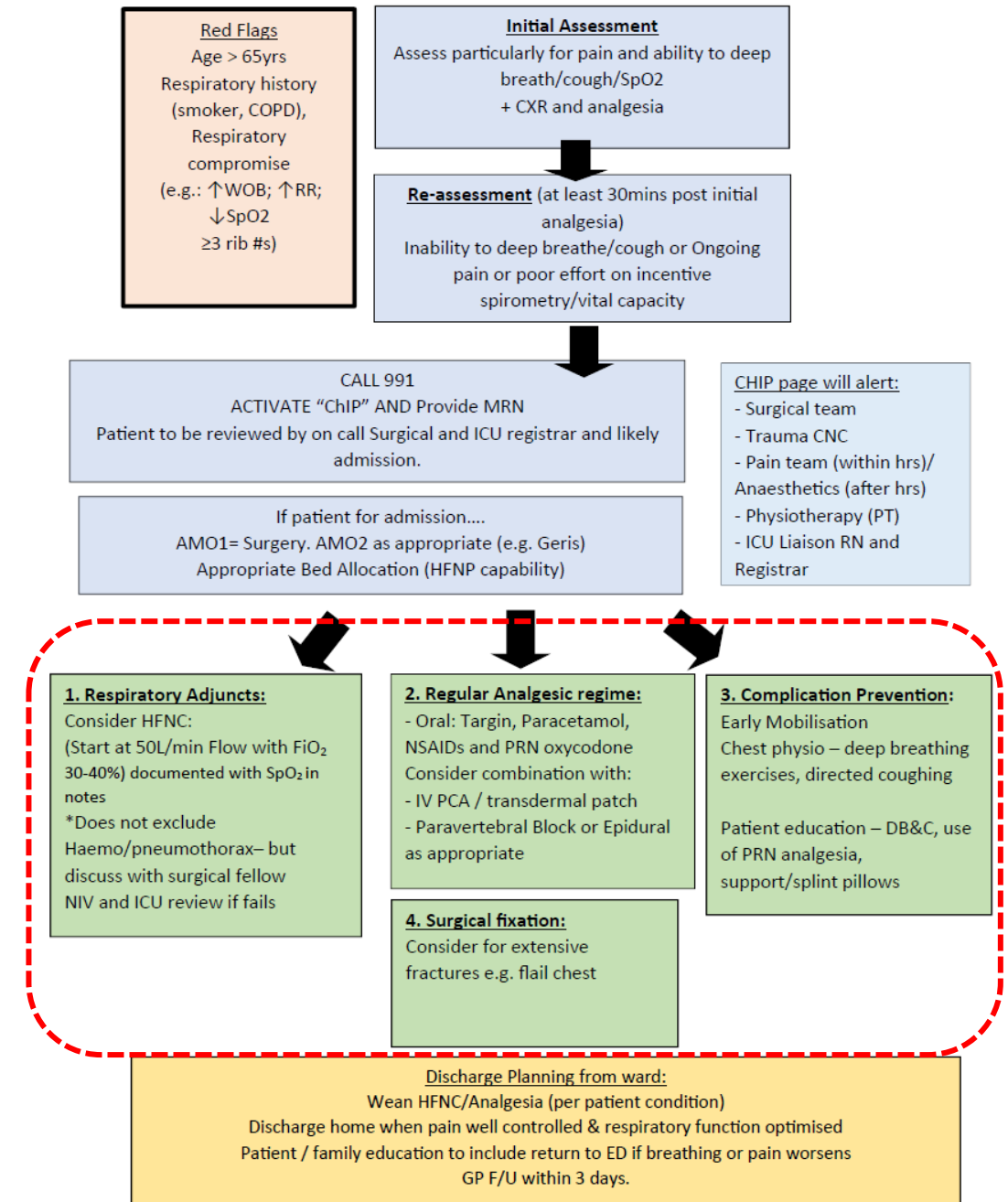
- **Multiple rib fractures:** better subjective pain relief, improvement in peak expiratory flow rates, arterial blood gases
- **Post-thoracotomy pain control,** increased **lung function** (FEV₁, FVC, PaO₂, PaO₂)



Figure 1. Patient with transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS). Electrodes are attached 2 cm above and 2 cm below the thoracotomy incision area.



TENS



TENS

Electrical Stimulation and Recovery of Gastrointestinal Function Following Surgery: A Systematic Review

James A. Penfold*[Ⓞ]; Cameron I. Wells*; Peng Du, BE, PhD[†];
Ian P. Bissett, MBChB, MD*[‡]; Gregory O'Grady, MBChB, PhD*^{‡†}

- electrode : near the incision line
- ileus were improved in 57% (4/7) of studies

Table 2. Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation Clinical Outcomes.

Author	Randomization (Y/N)	Blinding (Y/N)	Participants	Jadad score (RCT)	Newcastle-Ottawa score	Results
Hymes et al. (36)	No	No	130 treatment 154 control	N/A	7	60–80% subjective pain reduction *Striking reduction in ileus and reduced hospital stay*
Hymes et al. (37)	Yes	Yes	214 treatment 213 control	1	N/A	ES 0% ileus rate vs. control 13% ileus rate
Cooperman et al. (38)	Yes	Yes	26 treatment 24 control	1	N/A	*Significant pain relief ($P < 0.008$)* *No significant difference in ileus and PO atelectasis*
Perdikis et al. (39)	No	No	20 treatment	N/A	N/A	ileus "deflation"; • 4/20 in 6 hours • 10/20 in 12 hours • 16/20 in 24 hours • 17/20 in 26 hours '3x failures submitted to laparoscopy' '3x higher narcotic usage in control group' * $P < 0.05$ decrease in narcotic usage for treatment group PO D1/D2*
Rosenberg et al. (31)	Yes	Yes	6 treatment 6 control	1	N/A	*No decrease in POI* *30x higher total amount of narcotics in control group* * $P < 0.02$ decrease in Pethidine usage for treatment group PO D1/D2*
Sodipo et al. (40)	Yes	No	15 treatment 15 control	1	N/A	*Presence of ileus was the same*
Vermeulen et al. (41)	No	No	30 treatment	N/A	N/A	25/30 clinically audible bowel sounds within 4 hours of stimulation Passage of flatus; • 29% in 12 hours of stimulation • 83% in 24 hours of stimulation • 91% in 72 hours of stimulation

N/A, not applicable; ES, electrical stimulation; PO, postoperative; d, day.

관련 수가

• ICU-AW(CIP, CIPNM), peroneal neuropathy (foot drop) 등과 같은 말초신경손상

사113		전기자극치료 Electrical Stimulation Therapy			
	MM060	가. 마비근 치료	62,76	5,230	4,700
	MM061*	나. 근력강화 치료	62,76	5,230	4,700
		주 : 전방 십자인대 재건술 후 대퇴사두근 근력강화 목적으로 재활치료와 병행하여 실시한 경우에 산정한다.			

• 중추신경계 손상 환자

+ 삼킴검사에서 흡인소견 (PAS 8)

사126	MM151	기능적전기자극치료 Functional Electrical Stimulation Therapy	185,90	15,500	13,920
		주 : 기능적전기자극치료는 환자에게 최소 20분 이상 실시한 경우에 산정한다.			

사131	MZ008	연하재활 기능적전기자극치료 Functional Electrical Stimulation for Rehabilitative Dysphagia Therapy	191,27	15,950	14,330
		주 : 1. 중추신경계질환 등으로 인한 연하장애환자에게 30분 이상 훈련을 실시한 경우에 산정한다. 2. 1일 2회 이상 실시한 경우에도 외래는 1일 1회, 입원은 1일 2회만 산정한다.			



Summary

- NMES는 부작용 없이 안전하고 쉽게, ICU 입실 초기 적용 가능.
- 입원 초기 NMES를 적용, 환자의 상태에 따라서 운동치료 추가.
 - strength (limb and respiration), dysphagia
 - TENS
- 치료에 대한 근거 및 표준화된 프로토콜에 대해선 연구 필요.

A photograph of a hospital room. In the foreground, a medical professional wearing a white protective suit, hood, mask, and gloves is gesturing with their hands. In the background, a patient is lying in a hospital bed, also wearing a white protective suit. Another medical professional in a white protective suit is visible on the right side of the frame. The room contains various medical equipment and supplies. The text '감사합니다.' is overlaid in the center of the image.

감사합니다.