# به نام خدا

# PTNS (percutaneous tibialis nerve stimulation) Dilemas in treatment

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Remain the main stay of treatment for patients with F.I. who fails to respond to available conservative measures.

#### Percutaneous



#### transcutaneous



Hold promise to be an effective, patient friendly, safe and cheap treatment.

Gaining slowly acceptance

Efficacy of the percutaneous PTNS approach are far more than transcutaneous (qualtero) method

Usually unilaterally, and nerve is just above and behind the medial malleolus

Lack of effective and standardized treatment protocol

Once or twice in a week, for 6 or 12 weeks?

The national institute of clinical excellence (NICE) suggests both patterns could be adapted depending on patient responses.

#### Table 1

Posterior tibial nerve stimulation evidence summary n (%)

Ref.	Patient (n)	Type of PTNS	Time, frequency and duration of therapy	Follow- up	Stimulation endpoints	Efficacy	Study classification
Shafik et al[5]	32	Pct	30 min, alternate days	22 mo	Motor	27 (84)	Nonrandomised
			4 wk				controlled
Queralto et al[10]	10	Tet	20 min, daily	4 mo	Motor	8 (80)	Prospective uncontrolled
			4 wk				
Mentes et al[43]	2 <sup>1</sup> (spinal)	Pct	30 min, alternate days	3 mo	Motor	2 (100)	Prospective uncontrolled
			4 wk				
Vitton et al[22]	12 <sup>2</sup> (IBD)	Tet	20 min, daily	3 mo	Sub sensory	5 (42)	Prospective uncontrolled
			12 wk				
Babber et al[44]	8	Pct	30 min, weekly	3 mo	Not specified	7 (87)	Prospective uncontrolled
			12 wk				
De La Portilla et al[41]	16	Pct	30 min, weekly	6 то	Motor and sensory	10 (62)	Prospective uncontrolled

Dilemas in stimulation endpoint

Intensity of stimulation is turned down to just below the threshold required for motor contraction. (TC.PTNS)

PC.PTNS can causes a sensory and a motor response.

The presence of a combined motor and sensory response to be better associated with a successful outcome

Confident multicenter randomized controlled trial presently under way in the U.K. utilizes either a sensory or a motor response as an endpoint for stimulation.

No doubt regarding the short term efficacy of PTNS which are comparable to that of SNS

A recent multicenter trial reported no improvements following stimulation and concluded that unilateral transcutaneous PTNS was no more effective than sham stimulation.

Bilateral TC.PTNS is effective compared to unilateral.

The first PC.PTNS study reported a relapse of symptoms in 29% of patients.

All studies on PTNS mention the need for Top-up treatment.

The efficacy following TC.PTNS lasts for about 3 weeks post treatment.

Regular percutaneous Top-ups has therapeutic effect for urological dysfunction.

The efficacy following transcutaneous PTNS lasts for about 3 weeks post treatment.

#### Shafik recommendation:

- 30 mins
- Alternate days
- 4 weeks

General consensus that patient require 12 weeks of continuances treatment and that each treatment episode should last 30 mins

No apparent differences in efficacy, once a week or twice a week patterns of treatment.

NICE recommendation

All percutaneous PTNS utilized unilateral.

#### PTNS dilemas in treatment

- The main stay of treatment for patients with F.I. who fails to respond to conservative therapies is neurostimulation.
- The main neurostimulation is SNS, (sacral nerve stimulation).
- Posterior tibial nerve stimulation (PTNS) is a relative new option in neurostimulation.
- PTNS is effective, patient friendly, safe and cheap treatment.
- The use of PTNS is slowly gaining acceptance.
- Questions remain unanswered in use of PTNS.
- These have raised dilemas, as long as the remain unsolved.
- We try to review information on PTNS to solve these dilemas.