

Postępy rehabilitacji dyzartrii w chorobie Parkinsona z wykorzystaniem LSVT® (Lee Silverman Voice Treatment®)*

The progress in the rehabilitation of dysarthria in Parkinson disease using LSVT® (Lee Silverman Voice Treatment®)

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Summary

Parkinson's disease causes damage to the central nervous system resulting in bradykinesia, muscle rigidity, rest tremor and dysarthric speech. In clinical terms dysarthria denotes the dysfunction of articulation, phonation and respiration. It is brought about by the impairment of neural paths innervating the speech apparatus, thus causing a decreased ability to communicate. The study was conducted by the Center for Speech and Language Processing (CSLP), Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań and the Chair and Department of Phoniatics and Audiology, the Medical University, Poznań within the interdisciplinary research project grant called "Speech and Language Virtual Therapist for Individuals with Parkinson's Disease". Apart from traditional voice and speech therapies, one of the ways of treating speech disturbances accompanying Parkinson's disease is an innovative Lee Silverman Voice Treatment (LSVT®). The purpose of this innovative method introduced by dr L. Ramig and colleagues in 1987-1988, is to teach the patient to speak loud. As a result of co-operation between CLSP and the Center for Spoken Language Research (CSLR) at the University of Colorado, Boulder, USA, a Polish version of LSVT Virtual Therapist computer programme was created (LSVTVT). The programme is based on the principles of LSVT. The positive outcomes of the therapy give hope to Parkinson's disease patients with dysarthria, as well as to speech therapists.