

FC26-05

DIFFERENCES IN DEPRESSION SYMPTOMS BETWEEN rTMS RESPONDERS AND rTMS NON-RESPONDERS IN A SAMPLE OF TINNITUS AFFECTED PEOPLE

J. Acker, F. Scholz, A. Piehl, K. Richter, G. Niklewski

Klinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie, Klinikum Nürnberg, Nürnberg, Germany

Introduction: The clinic of psychiatry and psychotherapy and the clinic of otolaryngology of the clinic of Nuremberg offer an interdisciplinary consultation for patients suffering from tinnitus aurium and comorbid major depression and/or insomnia.

Objectives: Prediction variables are needed regarding the treatment of subjective ear noises by low frequency rTMS.

The aim of the present study was to examine

- a) if rTMS responders and non-responders differ in significant parameters prior to the rTMS treatment
- b) and if improvement of tinnitus complaints is associated with mood change.

Methods: From June 2008 to July 2010 109 outpatients with chronic tinnitus were treated with rTMS (1 Hz, 2000 impulses, intensity 110% motor-threshold, 10 proceedings, stimulation of left auditory cortex). Prior to and afterwards the proceedings clinical assessment regarding the severity of tinnitus (TQ) and depressive symptoms (BDI II, MADRS) took place.

Results: Response to rTMS was defined as reduction in the TQ score of ≥ 5 points (54 responder, 18 female, 36 male; 55 non-responder, 16 female, 39 male). The samples did not differ in age ($M_R = 56,4$, $SD_R = 13,3$; $M_{NR} = 57,3$, $SD_{NR} = 12,2$). The subsamples differed significantly regarding depression symptoms before rTMS, as non-responder being more depressive than rTMS-responder (table 1; MADRS: $p = 0.008$ **; BDI II: $p = 0.01$ **).

Furthermore there is a significant interaction between BDI and the response/non-response criterion indicating a higher decrease of depression symptoms in rTMS responders.