

Title: Occupational therapy intervention in patients after vestibular schwannoma surgery

Abstract:

Vestibular schwannoma is a benign tumor of the vestibulocochlear nerve and contains about 8-10% of all intracranial tumors. With an incidence of approximately 1 new case per 100,000 population, it is a rare disease that, although we can now successfully treat, can without an early diagnosis and treatment have debilitating consequences. The main manifestations of schwannomas include hearing loss, tinnitus, vertigo, balance disorders and significantly reduced quality of life.

This thesis mainly focuses on the rehabilitation of patients after VS resection. These patients most commonly visit rehabilitation facilities for balance impairment, postoperative paresis n. facialis or deteriorated orientation. Attention is also specifically paid to occupational therapy intervention.

The theoretical part approaches the issue of vestibular schwannomas generally, it describes the symptoms and options of treatment. A large part is also devoted to rehabilitation. This work founds a basis for the creation of a clinical practice guideline focused on the rehabilitation of patients after resection of VS. The last section then contains a summary of the intervention for occupational therapy.

This paper responds to the absence of sources on the topic of occupational therapy in vestibular schwannomas and vestibular rehabilitation in general and can serve as an informative framework for occupational therapists who encounter patients with VS.

Key words: vestibular schwannoma, acoustic neuroma, rehabilitation, occupational therapy, quality of life