

Subject : Re: Peripheral nerve stimulators
Date : Fri, 8 Aug 2014 11:40:00 +0100
Linked to : Grant Rodney
From : "Rodney Grant (NHS TAYSIDE)" <grant.rodney@nhs.net> (By way of info@viamed.co.uk)
To : SHARD (Steve Hardaker) <GoldMine User>

Hi Steve

Thanks for your response

In answer to your queries:

Yes we need an objective quantitative response

Yes the most commonly used principle in commercial devices is accelerometers

Exactly, we need to quantify the train of four (TOF) ratio to accurately determine true block recovery. With standard devices twitch strength cannot be differentiated above TOFr 40%. Target for adequate recovery is 90%. Hence common error of '4 strong twitches reported' but up to 40% patients in rooted studies have TOFr <90%

Magnitude of movement not important. Most devices would have a calibration option

Correct re facing Africa. I travel each year in October. This year will be my 5th trip. We did buy your devices thank you

By the way I need monitors (ECG BP PULSE OX) and free standing pulse oximetry. Do you do any of those?

Best wishes

Grant

On 1 Aug 2014, at 16:50, "Steve Hardaker" <steve.hardaker@viamed.co.uk> wrote:

Hi Grant,

Thank you very much for the information. I apologise for not responding sooner, your email got sent to a junk mail folder and I just found it on a sweep through.

I have discussed this with our product development people and they are keen to investigate further as we are keen for our products to keep pace with clinical requirements. I have a question, which I hope that you may be able to advise upon.

Obviously, we need to employ some method of measuring the the twitch response in a way that is not subjective, but quantifiable independently of the user's own interpretation. We are thinking of employing accelerometry, but what is the critical factor that you as an anaesthetist are keen to quantify?

The device could potentially generate a number of parameters from the movement of a digit. I am theorising that the critical parameter is the acceleration force, which would indicate the strength of the initial twitch response, but are other factors also important, such as the overall magnitude of movement (ie distance travelled) by the digit?

We will, of course, perform our own research into the upcoming changes but any input that you can offer based on the requirements of you and your peers would be greatly appreciated.

By the way, I recognize your name now: I recall that we had dealings around 3 years ago as you were working on the Facing Africa project, which I hope was successful for your team and the children that you managed to see.

Thanks in advance and I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,
Steve

Steve Hardaker
UK Sales Manager
Viamed Ltd.
<http://www.viamed.co.uk>
email: steve.hardaker@viamed.co.uk
Tel: +44 (0)1535 634542
Fax: +44 (0)1535 635582

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[Sent via Goldmine]

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> Viamed Ltd.
>
> <http://www.viamed-online.com>
> email: steve.hardaker@viamed.co.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1535 634542
> Fax: +44 (0)1535 635582
>
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> ----- Forwarded message -----
> From: Rodney Grant (NHS TAYSIDE) <grant.rodney@nhs.net>
> Date: 15 July 2014 15:32

> Subject: RE: Peripheral nerve stimulators
> To: Steve Hardaker <steve.hardaker@viamed.co.uk>
>
>
>
> Hi Steve
>
> 2 documents about to emerge within the year
>
> the 1st is NAP5 project reporting on unexpected awareness which has a
> launch day in September. i believe this will likely refer to inadequate
> reversal and patient waking up with some ongoing paralysis, ie awareness
> at the end of the procedure. I have no clear evidence for this, we will
> see
>
> Also the AAGBI is revising Standards of monitoring for anaesthesia and I
> cant say any more except that I am on this group and I refer you to my
> comments in my original email.
>
> From a clinical point of view your monitor is reliable and affordable but
> it is unable to provide conclusive evidence of adequacy of reversal, this
> being a function of all such subjective 'twitchers'. it is an issue not
> with your device but with the category of such devices.
>
> Watch this space is the bottom line
>
> grant
>
> PS steve I think it was you who helped me when we purchased 2 x devices
> for charity work that i do in africa.
>
>
>
>
>
> Consultant Anaesthetist
> Tel 01382 660111
> Pager 4407
> Ext 32175
>
>
>
> From: Steve Hardaker [steve.hardaker@viamed.co.uk]
> Sent: 15 July 2014 15:01
> To: Rodney Grant (NHS TAYSIDE)
> Subject: re: Peripheral nerve stimulators
>
>
> Dear Grant,
>
> Thank you for your enquiry and constructive comments.
>
> Unfortunately, we do not currently manufacture or supply any nerve
> stimulators that quantify twitch response by the use of accelerometers.
> The Microstim DB3 is the latest variant of a time-honoured design that has
> been around since the mid 1980s, and as such, the instrument has settled
> down into a working design, with ongoing development being largely driven
> by the demands of the marketplace.
> Other than fine-tuning the design and bringing it up-to-date with modern
> manufacturing techniques, we have not done anything towards substantially
> changing the way that the device operates or the method of measuring the

> twitch response as the market has not previously asked for it.
>
> Your comments regarding the future of neuromuscular monitoring are
> interesting; it may well be time to look at moving the design forward as
> you suggested. Are you able to point me towards any reliable reference
> sources where we can research the progress in this area?
>
> I will feed your comments and any supporting information into the product
> development framework and see if our technical people are willing to move
> forwards and develop the Microstim to meet the future needs of the market.
>
> Thanks in advance and I look forward to hearing from you.
> Regards,
> Steve
>
> Steve Hardaker
> UK Sales Manager
> Viamed Ltd.
>
> <http://www.viamed.co.uk>
> email: steve.hardaker@viamed.co.uk
> Tel: +44 (0)1535 634542
> Fax: +44 (0)1535 635582
>
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> [Sent via Goldmine]
>
> >Hello
> >
> >I have recieved a flyer about Viamed microstim DB3 supramaximal nerve
> >stimulators.
> >
> >We use these in my hospital.
> >
> >I have an interest in muscule relaxation and monitoring.
> >
> >These monitors are keenly priced.
> >
> >However I think the future in neuromuscular monitoring is the use of
> >objective monitors using techniques like accelerometry. Subjective
> >monitors like the microstim are better than no monitor use, but are well
> >documented as being inadequate at fully determining adequacy of reversal.
> >

> >Do viamed produce or market any such devices, ie ?
> >
> >If not any plans to do so?
> >
> >If not might I be so bold as to encourage an interest in this area.
> >
> >I am sure that developments in the next couple of years will push the use
> >of such devices.
> >
> >Regards
> >Grant Rodney
> >
> >Consultant Anaesthetist
> >Tel 01382 660111
> >Pager 4407
> >Ext 32175
> >
> >*****
> *
> >*****
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