

Data Collection

Results of the literature search yielded the following types of articles: single group pre-test post-test controlled designs (5), retrospective case series pre-test post-test designs (3) and a single subject case report (1).

Results

Single group pre-test post-test controlled designs

Blizer, Komisar, Baredes, Brin & Stewart (1995)

blockade was administered and improved speech abilities. The patient was then injected with 15 units of Botulinum toxin (7.5 units on each side of the midline) into the cricopharyngeous muscle with an 27-gauge Teflon-coated electromyography needle. The patient's speech fluency had reportedly improved to a minimum of 10 syllables per breath within 48 hours of the treatment. Intraesophageal peak pressures recorded had dropped to below 20mm Hg. The patient did not require

improvement; however, dysphagia persisted in many patients. However, Crary and Glowsky (1996) found all patients reported improved voice and swallowing function. Results regarding the dosage administered and the effects on dysphagia could contribute to future research and a better understanding of the role BtA plays in dysphagia. There is evidence that increasing the initial dosage can result in longer lasting effects (Crary and Glowasky, 1996; Hoffman et al., 1997); however, this finding has not been irrefutably established.

