Lorraine Clapham, Chair of FTS-UK.

The role of chair of FTS-UK, I am sure should not be the easiest but that is certainly how it feels to me. Vanessa, Catriona and Sally are very organised individuals, creative and very good at keeping to deadlines. Vanessa has been doing a great job as Secretary and it is down to her that this news letter exists. Sally with her great organisational skills and financial head has ensured that we have had sponsorship for our courses and we have been left with enough money to start building our Web site.

Catriona now back from maternity leave, and don’t we know it, has returned with all the drive and passion that she had for FTS-UK before she went on leave. It is great to have her back. I would like to say a big thank you to all three for their great work and support throughout the year.

Other News from the Chair

What started as a clinical observation in a number of patients with facial paralysis, (i.e. contraction of the facial muscles in patients post transection of the facial nerve), and a fortuitous opportunity to share this observation with Professor Jonathan Cole (now President of FTS-UK) at the XI International Facial Nerve Symposium in Rome 2009. We now have now been able to present this work at the British Society for Clinical Neurophysiology Bristol 2010. This was presented again in Rome 2011 at the 14th European Congress on Clinical Neurophysiology. Clapham’s Sign; Stretch Related Facial Muscle Contraction After Complete Denervation L. Clapham, D. Allen, R Arunachalam and J. Cole. This has now resulted this year in a publication in the Journal of Laryngology and Otology: Facial muscle contraction in response to mechanical stretch after facial nerve injury: Clapham’s sign. The mechanism for this response is unclear, hence the need for a more in depth neurophysiological study. It has already generated a lot of interest worldwide. I am sure it will have implications for us as therapists and create more opportunities for collaborative research. I hope to be able to have the opportunity at our next study day to share with you some of the ideas to date. Having our President’s support with this is fantastic. Finally, Dr Rose has resigned from her role in FTS-UK. We would like to thank her for her contributions to FTS-UK and wish her well.

Clinical Audit

The facial palsy team at the Queen Victoria Hospital continue to keep a comprehensive audit of their service. We have also embarked on a small audit of one of our main outcome measures – The Sunnybrook Facial Grading Scale. We are primarily concerned about inter and intra-rater reliability. Wessex MDT Facial Team is currently constructing a Facial data base working with Ophthalmology, Neurophysiology, Maxilla facial, Otolaryngology and Neurosurgeons (skull base team). It will include patients with intracerebral tumours, as well as those patients with more benign causes for their facial weakness such as Bell’s palsy. It is hope that by capturing data such as tumour size, neurophysiological function of the facial nerve prior to surgery, even in patients who have no obvious signs of facial dysfunction we will be able to predict those patients who are at greater risk of developing a facial weakness after surgery.
Facial Therapy Specialists - UK

FTS-UK in the Media

The NHS Choices website has now updated its pages on Bell's Palsy. A new video in question and answer format, gives information from the therapist, (Vanessa Venables), about facial palsy and a narrative account of the symptoms from a person who suffered from Bell’s palsy. The feedback from this has been good but the main concern is the lack of reference to the psychosocial issues associated with facial palsy. This was surprising as the uncut interview contained many questions about these issues.

It is a difficult job to summarise 90 minutes interviewing into 4 minutes. However, the updated information is a significant improvement.

FTS-UK Presentations

February was a very busy month for FTS-UK
February 11th 2011- Sally Glover & Lorraine Clapham were invited to lecture at the British Society of Otology BSO Annual Meeting. The topic was “Facial Nerve”.

They were a challenging audience of surgeons who to say were somewhat dismissive of Therapy at the start of the day is probably an understatement. Sally delivered an excellent presentation on Botox and Acupuncture in the management of facial palsy.

Lorraine presented an overview of the range and rationale for different approaches to treatment. They were able to demonstrate that we are evidence based in our approach to therapy. They were also able to inform the BSO of our group FTS-UK, its aims and objectives. Afterwards Lorraine and Sally were approached by a number of the surgeons who wanted to know more about our set up, when we would be running courses and could their therapists attend. It was a challenging but very rewarding day.

February 22nd 2011

FTS-UK in Southampton hosted a very successful introductory course- ‘A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Management of Facial Paralysis’. We received some very positive feedback which we have taken on board, hence the course on management of Synkinesis which is planned for March 2012. Most course participants identified that they found the case studies and videos to be very informative.

Birmingham May 2011

Sally Glover presented “The Benefits of Acupuncture and Botulinum Toxin in patients with Facial Palsy”, at the Annual Congress of the National Society of Otologists.

Southwark Cathedral, London, October 2011

Sally also presented “The Benefits of Botulinum Toxin in Patients with Synkinesis following Facial Palsy”, at The First National Dystonia Injectors Meeting.

Catriona and Vanessa will be presenting to the London ACPIN, in September 2012.

Updates

Sally Glover, University Hospitals Birmingham.

2011 has seen the successful start of our multi professional Facial Clinic. The clinic offers joint assessment for patients with facial Palsy with ENT Surgeon and Otologist Mr Richard Irving, Plastic Surgeon Mr Demetrius Evriviades and myself with support form Katrina Emery Speech and Language Therapist.

The clinic is operational on a weekly basis, Tuesday am 11.30 am - 1pm.
Facial Therapy Specialists - UK

Catriona Neville and Vanessa Venables, Queen Victoria Hospital, Sussex.

Enthusiastic professionals in the facial palsy team have set up a facial palsy support group. The first meeting was held in May 2011 which was very well attended.

The aim is to meet every four months, on a Saturday morning. The members have taken on various roles so that they have an active part in the structure and running of the group.

The purpose of the group is to provide an opportunity for people to meet and offer each other mutual support. We have had two meetings which have included a presentation by a patient showing her journey through facial reanimation surgery. The members have also set up their own blog in order to offer each other ongoing support between meetings.

Article by Jonathan Jones

This article has been written by Jonathan Jones’, (Guardian Art Critic), experience of Bell’s palsy and subsequent exploration into the concept of beauty.

http://m.guardian.co.uk/artanddesign/2008/oct/14/art-socialexclusion?cat=artanddesign&type=article

Case Study

This patient presented in 2010 with a 2 year history of Ramsey Hunt and severe synkinesis. To date she has had a programme of stretches, massage and neuromuscular re-education (ongoing). She is extremely diligent with her exercise which has paid off with excellent progress as can be seen in the photographs below. This patient has also had a small dose of Botox her ipsilateral mentalis and blepharoplasty to remove the excess skin on her eyelids which was restricting her vision.

Pre treatment smile          Post treatment smile

Training Date

Saturday March 17th FTS-UK - The Management of Synkinesis

Provisional Programme:

09.00 Registration
09.15 What is Synkinesis? - theories behind it, challenges, onset etc
10.15 Break
10.45 Different types/presentations of synkinesis
11.15 Assessment of synkinesis using FGS
12.00 Lunch
12.45 Q&A
13.00 Theory of acupuncture and acupuncture case study
13.30 Theory of Botulinum toxin and case study
14.00 Tea plus Q&A
14.15 Case study - to include stretches, massage, EMG relaxation and EMG delinking and NMR
15.00 Case study combination of above
16.00 Close

Brief members meeting re: research/development of guidelines?

For further information and application form please contact:

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References

Synkinesis
  This study examines the relationship between the time course of the development of synkinesis in patients with Bell’s Palsy and the severity of nerve damage.
  Acupuncture:

Botulinum and Fillers
- Adam Wiener - Wellington Regional Medical Center, Wellington, Florida; Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, California CASE REPORT AND LITERATURE REVIEW A Novel Long-term Therapy of Facial Synkinesis with Botulinum Neurotoxins Type A and Fillers- The Journal of Clinical Aesthetic Dermatology 1 March 2011 Vol 4 No3 p 45-47
  Surgery:
  - Douglas K. Henstrom, MD; Juan S. Malo, MD; Cheney, MD; Tessa A. Hadlock, MD. Platysmectomy an Effective Intervention for Facial Synkinesis and Hypertonicity. Arch Facial Plast Surg/Vol 13 (No 4), July/August 2011

General Prognosis
- Maria Grosheva, MD; Claus Wittekindt, MD; Orland Guntinas-Lichius, MD Prognostic Value of Electroneurography and Electromyography in Facial Palsy. The Laryngoscope 118:March 2008 p394-7
- Claudia Aimon, MD; Loredana Lombardi, MD; Ernesto Gastaldo MD et al, Preoperative and Postoperative Electroneurographic Facial Nerve Monitoring in Patients with Parotid Tumours, Arch Otolarngol Head & Neck Surg/Vol 129, Sep 2003

Facial Rehabilitation:

If you have any questions or comments please use our email contacts below:-

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