



Preference for reconstructive interventions of the upper extremities in Tetraplegia

the impact of treatment characteristics

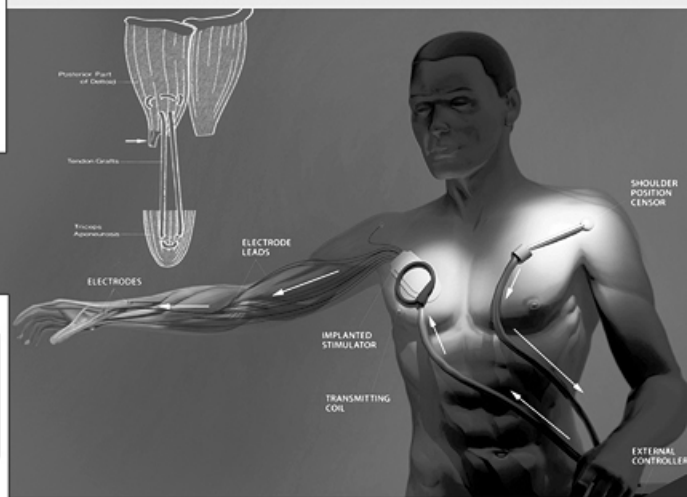
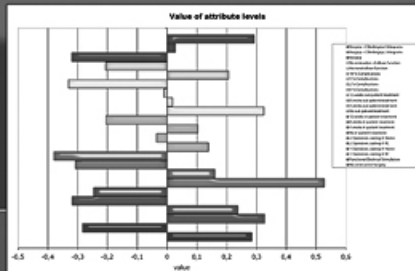
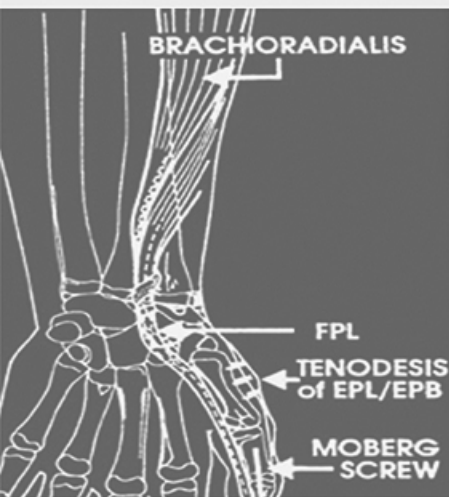
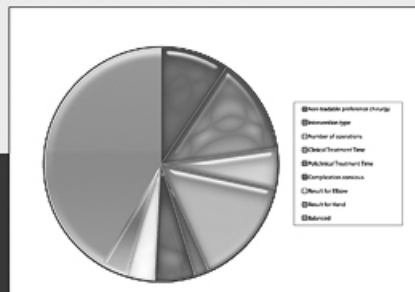
INTRODUCTION

- Hand and arm function regarded as very important by tetraplegic individuals
- Possibility of augmentive treatment of the tetraplegic hand
 - Freehand system
 - Reconstructive surgery
- Clinical experience: Interventions not accepted by patients despite functional limitations
- Aim: Insight into factors that determine willingness to accept assistive technology

METHODS

- Discrete choice Conjoint Analysis
- 7 attributes with 2-4 levels
- Attribute validation by expert panel
- 20 choicetypes
- 53 patients recruited; 49 included
- Logit and hierarchical bayes regression modelling of relative weight

RESULTS



CONCLUSIONS

- In patient rehabilitation time greatest impact on decision making
- Neural implant rejected by 10%
- Reducing in-patient stay and limiting surgical procedures to one increases overall preference

Authors

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