

Procedure (continued)

- Patients typically notice only a loud clicking noise. Earplugs are provided.
- rTMS is usually only mildly uncomfortable, but in some cases, parts of the scalp can be painful. Pain usually improves over time or goes away. It is usually relieved with acetaminophen or ibuprofen if needed.
- Movement or tingling of the arm, leg, face or scalp may happen during treatment. You may also feel numb in the face temporarily.
- The power of the magnetic field generated varies from person to person, and also from one brain region to the next.
- Each session lasts about 25 minutes
- Patients typically receive 20 sessions over 2-6 weeks

Want more information or have further questions?

Please contact your Doctor or the VA rTMS study team



VA Study "rTMS for dementia"

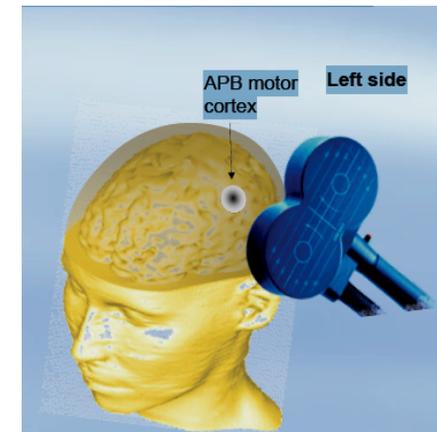
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VA Research Study

rTMS for Dementia



What is Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS)?

rTMS

- is a way of delivering brain stimulation without seizures or risks associated with electroconvulsive therapy (ECT/shock therapy).

- does not have the potential side effects and risks of drug therapy.

- may be an alternative treatment for memory loss.

How does it work?

- rTMS generates a magnetic field that penetrates the scalp to produce very small electrical currents in the brain.

- These electrical currents stimulate areas of the brain that may be involved in cognition, thinking and memory.

Uses

A large number of studies with rTMS have been conducted on a variety of neurological and psychiatric conditions, but few have been confirmed and most show very modest effects, if any. Some conditions that have been responsive to TMS-based therapy are:

- stroke
- major depression
- migraine
- epilepsy
- memory impairment

Procedure

- rTMS is an outpatient procedure that is non-invasive, meaning that it does not involve surgery and no anesthesia is required.

- Patients are awake and alert as an electromagnetic coil is placed over the head. The coil is encased in plastic.

