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Objectives: Neuropathic pain is common a er neural injury but o en di cult to e ectively treat. Scrambler therapy is a novel therapeutic modality which treats pain via noninvasive cutaneous electric stimulation by providing “non-pain” information. is study was performed to investigate the e ect of Scrambler therapy for the treatment of chronic neuropathic pain.

Methods: Eligible patients had neuropathic pain symptoms of 3-month duration with pain rated as 4 or more on a visual analogue scale (VAS) during the prior week. Patients were treated with Scrambler therapy to the a ected area(s) for up to ten daily 30-min sessions. Symptoms were monitored using a VAS ranging from 0 to 10, before and a er each treatment session. Primary outcome measure was change in VAS scores at one week; secondary outcome measure was change in VAS score two weeks.

Results: Six patients were enrolled. Four patients had spinal cord injury, 1 patient had intracerebral hemorrhage and 1 patient su ered brachial plexus injury. Treatment session 1 to 6, the di erence in VAS between before and a er therapy was signi cant ($p<0.05$, paired t test), but treatment session 7 to 10, the di erence in VAS between before and a er therapy was not signi cant ($p>0.05$, paired t test). At one week, the mean VAS score was reduced from 6.0 to 4.1 (32%) ($p=0.037$, paired t test). At two weeks, the mean VAS score was reduced from 6.0 to 4.8 (20%) but not signi cant ($p=0.058$, paired t test). No undesirable side e ects were observed during this study.

Conclusion: Preliminary data support that Scrambler therapy may reduce chronic neuropathic pain immediately during short-term (about 1 week), but did not reduce pain immediately a er 1 week of therapy. Pain reduction e ect of Scrambler therapy did not persist beyond 1 or 2 weeks. Further randomized sham controlled research is warranted.

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