



Recovery Sciences

MARKETING BULLETIN Long-Term Care

Outcomes of VitalStim in Voice Patients

As you all know, VitalStim Therapy is cleared by the FDA for the treatment of swallowing disorders (dysphagia), not for the treatment of voice disorders (dysphasia). However, even though there is no FDA clearance, one of the most common reports from users is that patients treated for their dysphagia also report improvements in their voice.

Below is a report I received recently from one such user.

"I am happy to tell you that VitalStim has been working extremely well for my voice clients. One success story is a 68-yr-old man who had a cancerous thyroid removed, and subsequent unilateral vocal cord paralysis. He came in with no voice at all. He had always had a very remarkable, strong, deep voice, and had used his voice in his police career and then became a salesman. After 7 weeks, 2 treatments per week, he regained his original voice and was able to go back to his sales job.

It's also working very well for another client, a 57-yr-old woman who had a very deep harsh voice, and then had surgery for large vocal polyps. After the surgery and recovery, even after several weeks she could only whisper. Now, after 8 treatments, she has regained a voice in the appropriate pitch range and though she is still hoarse, does have fairly clear phonation 50-60% of the time.

There are others....between the swallowing patients and the voice patients, I am using my VitalStim a lot!"

Thanks for all of your hard work bringing VitalStim to Speech-Language Pathologists like this. Through them you really are changing lives!

Mary Nylin
Sr. Clinical Specialist, VitalStim/LTC