

stimulator, coupled to the movement sensor, for applying pressure to a patient's larynx prior to swallowing. The device can also be used to automatically trigger and retrain swallowing to prevent aspiration pneumonia post stroke or post extubation.

Method: For the method patent, the instant device has also been claimed in a patent application asserting rights for improving voluntary initiation of swallowing in neurologically impaired patients. Swallowing recovery alleviates the risk of aspiration by augmenting volitional control using a simultaneous motor act (e.g., such as pressing a button to indicate when they are ready to swallow). It is believed that such motor training also initiates sensory stimulation, immediately preceding the motor act, and that such sensory stimulation enhances excitation of a central pattern generator in the brain stem that augments the volitional control of swallowing. This principle is applicable to other neurological impairments; their associated enhancement of voluntary motor act control by the patient initiating immediately concurrent and related sensory stimulations. Neurological impairments that are contemplated include reflex actions involving interactions between afferent and efferent paths (at the spinal cord or in the brain stem) as well as higher order interactions. This invention includes methods for treating neurologically impaired humans using devices such as those that produce vibratory stimulation, pressure stimulation, auditory stimulation, temperature stimulation, visual stimulation, olfactory stimulation, taste stimulation, or a combination of these. Combinations of two or more stimulation types are particularly useful. For example, the combined use of button press training with simultaneous vibratory and pressure stimulation on the neck to augment feedback to the brain stem swallowing centers to facilitate voluntary control of swallowing (thought to be largely an involuntary brain stem function) is particularly useful for treating dysphagic patients. Alternatively automatic cycles of stimulation at intervals during the day can be used for intensive retraining of swallowing post stroke or post-extubation to prevent aspiration.

Inventors: Christy Ludlow (NINDS), Christopher Poletto (NINDS), lanessa Humbert (NINDS), Newlin Morgan (NIMH).

Patent Status: PCT Application No. PCT/US2006/025535 (HHS Reference No. E-251-2005/1-PCT-02).

Licensing Contact: Michael A. Shmilovich, Esq.; 301/435-5019; shmilovm@mail.nih.gov.

Collaborative Research Opportunity: For research and development collaborations with inventors, contact Heather Gunas at 301-435-3944 or e-mail at gunash@mail.nih.gov.

Dated: July 19, 2007.

Steven M. Ferguson,

Director, Division of Technology Development and Transfer, Office of Technology Transfer, National Institutes of Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Special Emphasis Panel, Mentored Patient Oriented Research Career Development Award (K23's).

Date: August 23, 2007.

Time: 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Rockledge Center 2, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Mark Roltsch, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Review Branch/DERA, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 7192, Bethesda, MD 20892-7924, 301-435-0287, roltschm@nhbi.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 92.233, National Center for Sleep Disorders Research; 93.837, Heart and Vascular Diseases Research; 93.838, Lung Diseases Research; 93.839, Blood Diseases and Resources Research, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: July 19, 2007.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. 07-3668 Filed 7-26-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Special Emphasis Panel, Review of SBIR/STTR Applications; RFA AA-07-009/10.

Date: August 13, 2007.

Time: 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 5635 Fishers Lane, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Philippe Marmillot, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 5635 Fishers Lane, RM 3045, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-443-2861, marmillotp@mail.nih.gov. (Catalogue of Federal domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.271, Alcohol Research Career Development Awards for Scientists and Clinicians; 93.272, Alcohol National Research Service Awards for Research Training; 93.273, Alcohol Research Programs; 93.891, Alcohol Research Center Grants, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: July 20, 2007.

Anna Snouffer,

Acting Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

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