

Dear Profs. Stecco,

When I first met Prof. Antonio Stecco, I did not have the idea of the dimension and magnitude of our collaboration. At that time, I was just deeply amazed by his generosity and brilliance.

Yesterday, we accessed two stroke patients (will send the details later) with several pre and immediately post treatment measurements, including TMS (shockwaves over several upper limb structures and FES over the extensor muscles to start induced motor activity at the affected and treated side).

Prof. Marco Pintucci made sure that most of the fascia densification was removed after RESWT treatment and before FES.

VERY preliminary results demonstrated that not only cortical excitability increased (decrease in TMS measured motor thresholds) in the involved brain, but also (probably due to more activity of the affected brain), the non involved brain (contra-lateral hemisphere) cortical excitability decreased!!

This PRELIMINARY finding suggests that not only activity on the injured brain increases, but the intra-calosum inhibition by the non involved brain to the hemiparetic limb decreases. I am aware that other peripheral stimulus may also influence brain activity, however, effects seem to fade away very quickly, after some minutes or maximum hours.

This treatment seems also to have a long term effect of at least 4 months. Moreover, speech and lower limb activity also improves (despite no local or specific treatment of the lower limbs or speech).

This finding, if confirmed, may change rehabilitation medicine for life!!

Can you please help me prepare the plenary lecture for China...of course, I will add your names to the presentation, if you allow me the honor! It is definitely PRM most need: merge basic science, anatomy to the clinical optimized diagnosis and management!

Main outcome: better quality of life to all 1 billion persons with disability, aging population, etc..

MANY THANKS indeed!!

Sincerely,

Dr. Marta Imamura, MD. PhD.
Chair World Congress - ISPRM
International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine