

## Progress Report

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Date: 27/04/2017

Title of Project: Movement and Postural control in dystonia patients

*Summary: (approximately 1,000 words)*

*The hypothesis is that dystonia is a disorder of postural control rather than movement control in the brain. We use surface electromyography, transcranial magnetic stimulation and functional MRI brain scans to study the pattern of muscle activation, brain excitability and pathways activated during postural and movement control task in dystonia patients compared to healthy controls. So far in healthy controls, there is a difference in brain excitability during postural compared to movement task. It would be interesting to see if this difference is preserved in dystonia subjects and if the brain excitability is higher during postural task compared to normal controls. So far I have only been able to recruit 8 dystonia subjects for the study and require further 12 subjects in order to produce a meaningful result.*