Allevia Health, Inc.
Your Authorized Alpha-Stim Distributor
Corvallis, OR 97330-1016
Tel: 800-684-9343
Fax: 888-684-8414
info@alleviahealth.com
www.alleviahealth.com

ALPHA-STIM® RESEARCH ABSTRACTS

Aggressive Behavior

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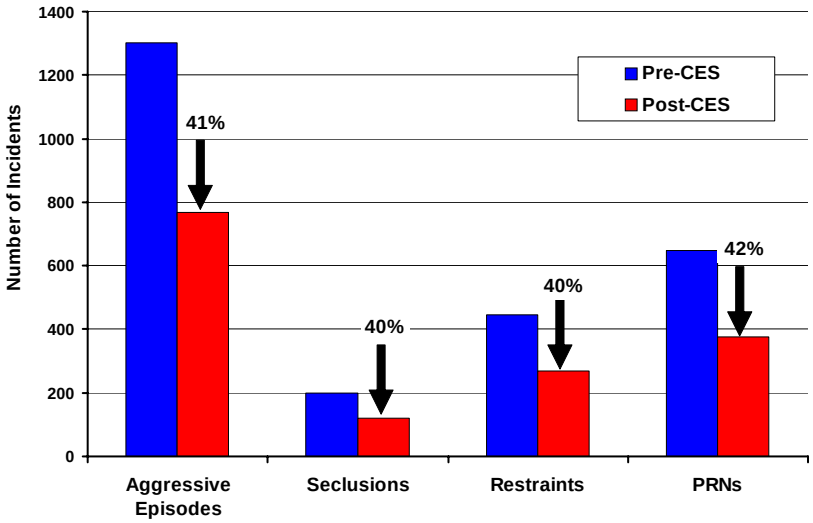
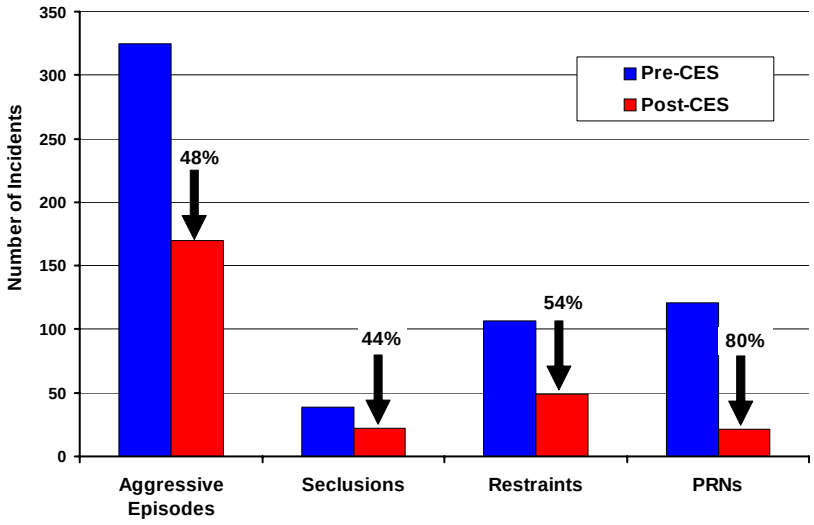
Childs, A., and L. Price (2007). Cranial electrotherapy stimulation reduces aggression in violent neuropsychiatric patients. *Primary Psychiatry* 14(3):50-56.

The study sought to determine if 3 months of daily cranial electrotherapy stimulation (CES) treatment reduced aggression in violent neuropsychiatric patients in a maximum security hospital. CES was used to treat 48 chronically aggressive neuropsychiatric patients in a maximum security psychiatric hospital. Retrospective chart review compared 3 months of pre-treatment with 3 months of active therapy. Early patients had responded positively to CES with a 41% reduction in episodes of violence ($P < 0.001$), a 40% reduction in episodes requiring restraint ($P < 0.001$) and seclusion ($P < 0.05$), and 42% fewer as-needed emergency medications ($P < 0.01$). A subgroup of 10 treatment-resistant psychotic patients, who attacked without warning or apparent motivation and were designated as having sudden assault syndrome, were 48% less violent on CES ($P < 0.001$). CES has significant anti-aggressive effects in violent neuropsychiatric patients, who are often refractory to medication. This safe, easy-to-administer treatment can benefit long-term severely ill patients.



Changes in behavior and use of emergency medications before and after 3 months of CES (n = 48 patients).



Changes in behavior and use of emergency medications in sudden assault patients before and after 3 months of CES (n = 10 patients).