

Pharyngeal Electrical Stimulation for Early Decannulation in Tracheotomised Stroke Patients with Dysphagia (PHAST-TRAC)



Purpose: To evaluate the usefulness of electrical pharyngeal stimulation (PES) for early decannulation in tracheotomized stroke patients.

Trial Design: Phase 3, randomized in 3 European countries, single-blinded, superiority trial. N=50 (futility), N= 70 (efficacy) stroke patients who were on ventilation with tracheotomy randomized to 3 days of PES or placebo.

Primary Endpoints: readiness for decannulation 24-72 hours after treatment.

Readiness for decannulation		
Placebo (sham)	49% readiness	40% difference
Electrical Pharyngeal Stimulation	9 % readiness	

Electrical pharyngeal stimulation to stroke patients aids early decannulation in in this small trial.