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Budesonide nebulised as Pulsating Aerosol Therapy Option for Impairment of Sense of Smell resulting from Chronic Sinusits. A Case Study.

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Introduction and Question: Impairment in the sense of smell can result from inflammatory, traumatic, tumour-related, toxic or anatomical causes. To the fore is the nasal obstruction in the case of chronic / chronic recurring infections of the nose and paranasal sinuses, infections or influenza. Allergies or polyposis nasi can also result in a the sense of smell being impaired.

Material and Methods: The therapy with pharmaceuticals is often based on nasal corticosteroids administered with a pump spray. As pump sprays only reach the main nasal cavity, the pulsating aerosol system PARI SINUS (Image 1), was developed to access the difficult-to-reach olfactory region and paranasal sinuses.



Image 1: PARI SINUS and its Use



Image 2: Overlay of von szinitigraphical und MRT-Images [1].

The pulsation delivered by the device enables the deposition of aerosol particles in the nonventilated areas of the upper airways, which are largely inaccessible for conventional application forms such as nasal drops, nasal showers or conventional forms of inhalation. (Image 2).

Results: Patient A (83 J), chronic rhinosinusitis, no pre-operation, functional anosmia (SDI 14); no 20 improvement reported after 4,5 months of diverse therapies. Subjective/objective improvement (SDI 24,75) after pulsating budesonide aerosol (1mg 2x ¹⁰ daily) for 2 months (Image 3).







Patient B (30 J),

Polyposis nasi (Gr II re, Gr I-II li), nasal obstruction, recurring sinusitis, impairment of smell (Sniffin' Sticks re/li 8): Slight improvement after 2 weeks using nasal sprays with steroids (Sniffin'Sticks 10). Further improvement after pulsating aerosol with budesonide (1mg 2x daily) for 4 weeks (Sniffin'Sticks 13) (Image 4).. During therapy reduction in polyposis Grade I-II right and remission on the left (measured by MRT).

Conclusion: Difficult-to-reach areas of the upper airways can be reached with antinflammatory, antibacterial or mucolytic medications nebulised with pulsating aerosol. In the form of pulsating aerosol, budesonide is a therapy option for impairment in sense of smell where nasal sprays have been unsuccessful. Further research seems desirable and promising.

Literature: [1] Möller, W. et al. (2009). Ventilation and aerosolized drug delivery to the paranasal sinuses using pulsating airflow - a preliminary study. Rhinology 47: 405 63. Österreichischer HNO-Kongress 2019, Salzburg