

Pilates as a primary treatment modality in a patient with a Glioma: A Case Study DANI WEST, PT

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Indepth Physiotherapy Pilates Instructor at Embody Pilates e. indepth.physio@gmail.com **RESEARCH QUESTION:** What are the effects of using Classical Pilates as a treatment modality in improving balance, function and quality of life, for a patient with a Glioma?

## METHODS

#### PATIENT/ SUBJECTIVE HISTORY

- 43yo male
- Social: wife + 4 daughters
- Engineer, stopped working in August 2016
- Initial Physio Ax- March 20, 2017 for ++ Tsp Pain
- Mobility Status- 4pnt cane, discussed walker.
- PMHx:
  - Dx Glioma Dec 2009 (Left frontal, spread into Left temporal). Brain Injury Clinic for PT 2013
  - Severe Concussion Oct 2012
  - Herniated T4/5, T5/6 discs
  - Weight loss (Aug 2015-280lbs, Mar 2017-150lbs)
  - Gall Bladder Surgery Jan 2017
  - Other: ++ stomach pain (? Referral from Tsp), HA's

### CHIEF COMPLAINTS ON AX (March 2017)

- ++ pain in Tsp
- AGG: Prolonged standing and sitting, worse in PM, referred rib pain
- EASE: movement, change of position, laying supine
- PAIN: 5/10 pain- 10/10 pain, constant HA pain
- Sleeping: 4-5hrs/night

#### PATIENT GOALS:

- Wants to keep up with daughters/ ↓ fall risk

# METHODS

### **BASELINE TESTING:**

- **BERG BALANCE SCALE: 26/56**
- ► FACT-G SCORE: 39
- Long Sit (\*photo)
- Baseline Videos of Pilates Repertoire

## PROGRAM

- Smo Program (June 12, 2017- Aug 31, 2017) using Classical Pilates as the primary treatment modality
- (20) x1hr Pilates sessions
- Sessions 2x/ week for 3mo
- Pilates equipment utilized:
  - Reformer, Cadillac, Wunda Chair, Spine Corrector, Foot Corrector, Ped-O-Pull (some matwork)
- Outcome Measures Selected:
  - Berg Balance Scale (BBS)
  - ► FACT G (Version 4)
  - Video/ Photography



# RESULTS

## **OBSERVATIONS**

## BASELINE TESTING:



- Unable to touch toes,  $\downarrow$  Lsp Flexion
- $\downarrow$  coordination with Right leg circles
- 1 Right Scapular Control
- $\downarrow$  ROM R. Tsp, splays in Tsp with movement
- Kyphotic Tsp in seated
- J Symmetry of feet in Footwork (\*photo)
- Overall: 

   Coordination, balance and ROM on the Right side (upper and lower extremity)
- GOALS: 
   † Tsp extension, 
   † post chain, 
   † control in adductors

## POST TESTING:

- Able to touch toes,  $\uparrow$  Lsp flexion
- ↑ Coordination Right U/E & L/E
- † Scapular control
- ++ Improved Tsp extension range, ↓ Tsp splaying
- Independent with Stand to floor test (no hands)
- ↑ stability on the Right leg in standing
- Improved Symmetry in feet with footwork (\*photo)

OVERALL: ↑ coordination, balance and ROM on the Right side (upper & Lower extremity), Improved overall strength demonstrated in Pilates exercises (\*see video)

# RESULTS

### OUTCOME MEASURES:

- **BERG BALANCE SCALE:**  $26/56 \rightarrow 43/56$
- FACT-G SCORE: 39  $\rightarrow$  51
- Long Sit (\*photo)
- Post Testing Videos of Pilates Repertoire
- \*SEE PRE & POST TESTING VIDEO: https://youtu.be/7I5TX5PputA

## SUBJECTIVE RE-ASSESSMENT

- Tsp Pain/ Rib Pain: typically 2-3/10 (10/10 previously)
- Treadmill Training: 45', 5 days/week (previous: 0)
- Diet: remains to be poor
- Abdomen Pain: intermittent
- H/A- worsening- recent Botox injection for same
- Gait- clears feet in swing phase, uses Quad cane.
- Sleep/ night: 5hrs





# CONCLUSION

Pilates as a primary treatment modality resulted in improvements in **balance**, **coordination**, **core strength & quality of life**. Further investigation on its use with neurological patients & utilization in a clinical setting should be further explored.