Vestibular Myogenic Evoked Potentials in Central Lesions



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Vestibular myogenic evoked potentials (VEMPs) have been used to evaluate otolith dysfunction in patients with peripheral vestibular disorders such as vestibular neuritis, Meniere's disease, and benign paroxysmal positional vertigo. Nowadays, the research and clinical fields of VEMPs have been expended to evaluate central vestibular dysfunction. Since the otolith input are divided into otolith-ocular pathway and otolith-colic pathway at the level of vestibular nucleus, the pattern of VEMPs findings would be diverse according to the locations of the central lesions. We first review the direct and indirect central otolithic pathway that could be evaluated through VEMPs. And then, we systematically investigate the patterns and clinical significances of VEMPs findings according to the locations of central lesions.

Key Words: VEMPs; Central otolithic pathway

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