Examination of Speech



Introduction

• Wash hands, Introduce self, ask Patients name & DOB & what they like to be called, Explain examination and get consent

General

- Listen to their speech
 - o What's your name?
 - o How old are you?
 - Describe how you got here today
 - o Describe the room
- Work out if it's dysarthria or dysphasia, then proceed to that part of eximation
 - Dysarthria
 - Bulbar palsy = flaccid
 - Pseudobulbar palsy = spastic
 - Cerebellar = slurred or staccato (broken up into syllables)
 - Myasthenia = weak, quiet, fatiguable
 - Dysphasia
 - Expressive (Broca's) = know what they want to say but struggle getting it out
 - <u>Receptive</u> (Wernicke's) = fluent effortless speech but lacks meaning (talk <u>Rubbish</u>) + can't understand language (written or spoken)

Dysarthria

- Repeat difficult phrases
 - Yellow lorry (tongue)
 - Baby hippopotamus (lip)
 - We see three grey geese (palate
- Repeat sounds
 - o Pa (facial and mouth)
 - o Ta (tongue)
 - o Ka (palate)
- Count to 30 (fatigability in myasthenia gravis)
- Test cranial nerves 9, 10, 12
 - o Look in mouth and say "ahhh" to observe palatal movement
 - Look at uvula (deviates to side of lesion)
 - Look at tongue (fasciculations = lower motor neurone e.g. bulbar palsy)
 - Assess cough and swallow
 - Stick tongue out (deviates to side of lesion)
 - Say you would check gag reflex

Dysphasia

- Commands (receptive)
 - \circ 1 stage: open your mouth
 - 2 stage: with your right hand, touch your nose
 - o 3 stage: with your right hand, tough your nose then your ear
- Word finding
 - Say as many words they can beginning with S in 1 minute (<12 is abnormal)
- Naming objects (nominal)
 - o Watch
 - o Watch hands
 - o Pen
 - o Tie
 - o Belt
- Repetition (receptive)
 - No ifs ands or buts
- Write a sentence (expressive)
- Read a sentence (receptive)

To Complete Exam

- Thank patient
- "To complete my exam, I would do a full neurological exam"
- Summarise and suggest further investigations you would do after a full history