### Positional Vertigo Office Diagnosis and Treatment

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### Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo (a.k.a.)

**BPPV** 

BPV (Benign Positional Vertigo)
Positional Vertigo

### Case SH

- 61 y/o wm slipped and fell, hitting back of head
- LOC for 20 min
- In ER, unable to sit up
- Hallpike maneuver -positive



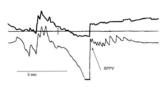
### Diagnosis: Dix-Hallpike Maneuver



### **BPPV** nystagmus



C. Nystagmus of BPPV



- Latency (0-20sec)
- Burst (< 60 sec)
- Upbeating/Torsion vector
- Reversal on sitting
- Fatigue with repetition

### Video Frenzel Goggles make it easier



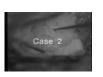


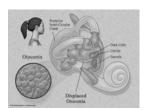
### Prevalence of BPPV is high

- · 20% of all vertigo
- 50% of vertigo in older persons.
- Linear increase with age!
- 85% of all positional vertigo

Positional Vertigo Among Residents of Olmsted County, Minnesota, in 1984 Sex-adjusted				
Age (yr)	Patients (no.)			incidence/ 100,000 population
	Total	Male	Female	per year
0-29	12	7	5	25
30-49	11	. 3	8	42
50-59	11	3	. 8	141
60-69	7	3	4	118
70-84	10	2	8	193
≥85	2	1	1	182
Total	53	19	34	64*

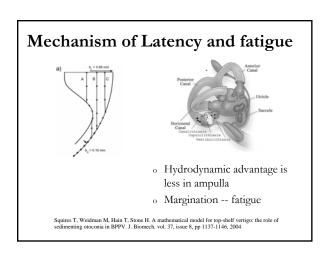
## BPPV Mechanism canalithiasis (loose rocks)





Lauren Parnes – canal plugging

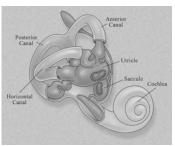
# BPPV timing: Latency, burst, reversal, fatigue



### **BPPV** Variants

Ewald's first law: eye movements occur in the plane of the canal being stimulated. Three canals → three vectors.

- · Posterior canal
- · Lateral canal
- · Anterior canal

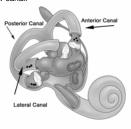


### Vector of nystagmus tells you the variant of BPPV (and the treatment)

- PC Upbeating or Torsion
- AC Downbeating with/wo Torsion
- LC Horizontal

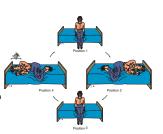


- There are numerous controlled studies of PC BPPV treatment, and they generally show that it works well.
- Goal of therapy is to mechanically remove debris from semicircular canal.



### **Brandt-Daroff**

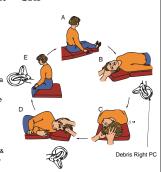
- Brandt-Daroff exercises (Brandt & Daroff, 1980)
  - Historically, first self treatment.
    - 3 cycles of exercise 3 times per day.
    - Stop exercises symptom-free with routine and exercises for 2 consecutive days
  - Outcome: 23% success rate within 1 week
    - (Radtke, Neuhauser, et al., 1999; Soto Varela, Bartual Magro et al, 2001).



### PC - BPPV Treatment -- CRP

- Canalith Repositioning Procedure (Epley, 1992). Illustrated for treatment of right PC.
- Single Treatment Approach
- Force of gravity redistributes otoconia
- Outcome: In RCT, 79 ± 16% average short term success rate of single treatment session.
  - reatment session.

    (Lynn, Pool et al., 1995; Froehling, Bowen et al, 2000; Soto Varela, Bartual Magro, et al., 2001; von Brevern, Seelig, et al., 2006; Tanimoto, Doi, et al; 2005; Sherman & Massoud, 2001; Sridhar, Panda et al, 2003.



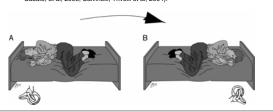
### PC - BPPV Treatment -- Epley (CRP)

 Canalith Repositioning Procedure – CRP (Epley, 1992)



### PC - BPPV Treatment -- Semont

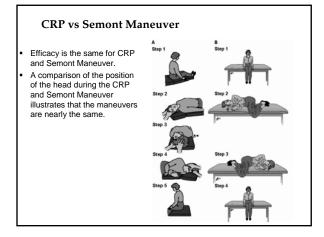
- Semont Maneuver (Semont, Freyss, et. al., 1988) also referred to as Liberatory Maneuver. Illustrated for treatment of right PC.
  - Single treatment approach
  - Inertia redistributes otoconia
  - Outcome: In RCT, 82 ± 6% average short term success rate of single treatment session
    - (Califano, Capparuccia, et al., 2003; Soto Varela, Bartual Magro, et al., 2001; Salvinell, Casale, et al, 2003; Salvinelli, Trivelli et al, 2004).

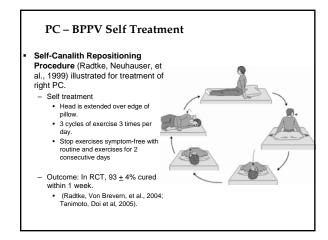


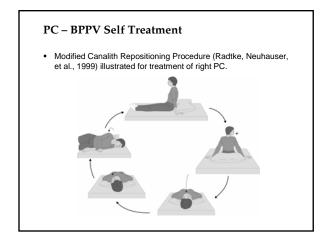
### PC - BPPV Treatment -- Semont

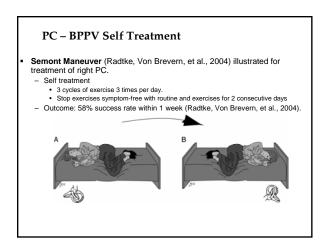
• Semont Maneuver (Semont, Freyss et al. 1988)











### **Complications of Procedures**

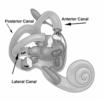
- Canal Conversion
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Recurrence

(Radikle, von Brevern, et al., 2004; Califano, Capparuccia, et al., 2003; Froehling, Bowen, et al., 2000; Soto Varela, Bartual Magro, et al., 2001; von Brevern, Seelig, et al., 2006; Tanimoto, Doi, et al., 2006

# Canal conversion. The "Oh My God" reaction to second cycle of CRP. During treatment of PC – BPPV, debris moves from posterior canal to lateral canal (mainly), or anterior canal (rarely). Second CRP results in a dramatically different nystagmus Treat with maneuvers we will demonstrate later in talk

## Canal conversion. The "Oh My God" reaction to second cycle of CRP.

- During treatment of PC BPPV, debris moves from posterior canal to lateral canal (mainly), or anterior canal (rarely).
- Second CRP results in a dramatically different nystagmus
- Treat with maneuvers we will demonstrate later in talk



### **Complications of Procedures 2 -- Emesis**



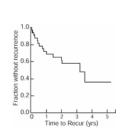


- Nausea and vomiting.
- Always identify a good sized wastebasket
- High risk patients may be administered antiemetic
  - Ondansetron HCL (Zofran) if they have to drive home
  - Meclizine (Antivert, Bonine) if they don't have to drive home
  - Promethazine (Phenergan)

### **BPPV** often Recurs

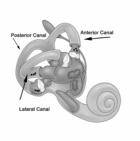
- · Of patients treated successfully
  - 25% redevelop BPPV within 1 year
  - 44% redevelop BPPV within 2 years

(Hain, Helminski, et. al., 2000)



### Where do the Rocks go?

- They just dissolve ?
- The dark cells ?



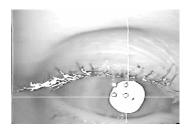
### Case: LATERAL CANAL BPPV

- Patient seen in office, has mild PC BPPV
- Sent home with home-Epley instructions
- Calls to say that he is now "much worse"
- Before, just got dizzy lying down on left.
- Now he is dizzy to both sides, and doesn't feel to good standing up either.

## Direction Changing Positional Nystagmus (DCPN) is seen in lateral canal BPPV

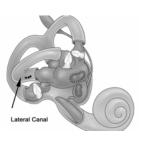
Lateral Canal (5%)

Horizontal DCPN



### Mechanism:

- Debris deposited in lateral canal
- Can be on either side of loop or stuck to cupula



# HC - BPPV Treatment Determine side involved Treat with Log-roll rolling from bad to good side Switch to other side if no better

### HC - BPPV Treatment

- ■There are no controlled studies of HC treatment
- Log Roll 270° rotation around longitudinal axis at 90° increments in the recumbent position.
   Illustrated for canalithiasis right HC.
  - Performed by clinician or self treatment.
    - 3 cycles of exercise. If self treatment, 3 times per day.
    - If self treatment, stop exercises when symptom-free with routine and exercises for 2 consecutive days
  - Outcome: 71% cured within 1 treatment (Nuti, et. al., 1998).



### Complications of Log Roll





- Nausea and vomiting lateral canal BPPV seems to cause more nausea – stronger, longer nystagmus
- Doesn't work -
  - You may be treating the wrong side. Switch to other side.
  - You may be treating the wrong disease

### Case: ANTERIOR CANAL BPPV

- Patient seen in office, gets dizzy lying on back (any position)
- Dix-Hallpike shows downbeating nystagmus --- not much torsion

### Anterior Canal BPPV



### Diagnosis of Anterior Canal BPPV

- Downbeating or mixed down/torsional nystagmus
- Provoked by headhanging
- If no previous BPPV, DD includes DBN in general.



## AC – BPPV Treatment There are no controlled studies • We use Deep Dix Hallpike • Logic – wait long enough for debris to sediment past the top of AC.

### WHAT IF EXERCISES FAIL?

- Get an MRI
- If normal you can do any or all of following
  - Nothing (6 months 80% response to time)
  - Avoidance of provoking positions
  - Medication
  - Daily Exercise .......

### **Daily Exercises do not Reduce Recurrence**

- Daily routine of Brandt-Daroff exercises does not affect the :
  - Time to recurrence of PC BPPV
  - Rate of recurrence of PC BPPV

(Helminski, et. al., 2005)

### **SURGERY**

Surgery: Canal Plug Procedure – works 90% of the time (this was the pre CRP-treatment)



Select an experienced otologic surgeon. Roughly a 4% chance of hearing loss.

### **BPPV** - Summary

- BPPV is easily diagnosed. Debris within specific anatomical locations have specific nystagmus patterns
- PC BPPV treatment with mechanical maneuvers is highly successful.
- HC and AC BPPV have specific and logical maneuvers, but controlled studies are presently lacking.

For much more, including more movies, see:

http://www.dizziness-and-balance.com/disorders/bppv/bppv.html