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Stress - and - Pain - (Dys)Regulation in Chronic Orofacial Pain

By Ursula Galli

Cuvillier Verlag Okt 2008, 2008. Taschenbuch. Book Condition: Neu. 208x144x10 mm. Neuware - The aim of this research was to examine patients with chronic orofacial pain with regard to two significant facets of stress and pain regulation - on the one hand the neuroendocrinological system of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis and on the other hand subjective illness beliefs, as measured by Leventhal's self-regulation model (SRM) (Leventhal et al., 1998). The significant effect of psychological and psychosocial factors on the chronicity of pain has been proved in numerous empirical studies and although stress has been investigated for some time as one of the most important psychosocial factors of chronic orofacial pain, there are hardly any studies that examine the underlying mechanisms of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis. For this reason we conducted two studies at the interdisciplinary orofacial pain consultant service at the Center for Dental and Oral Medicine and Craniomaxillofacial Surgery of the University of Zurich. The first study investigated a possible dysregulation of the HPA axis by means of the low-dose dexamethasone test. Twenty patients (17 females, 3 males) with chronic myogenous facial pain were dentally examined according to the criteria for RDC/TMD. Further, each underwent a personal interview and completed a...



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