



Calvary

Management of Neck Weakness in MND/ALS: **Finding Uplifting Solutions**

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Continuing the Mission of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary

Background

- Incidence Rate of Head Drop
 - 1.3% - 2.9% (Gourie-Devi et al, 2003; Uemura et al, 2013)
 - Head drop onset MND/ALS= 0.6% (Pinto et al, 2013)
- Onset of Head Drop
 - 3 months to 8 years post diagnosis (Gourie-Devi et al, 2003; Uemura et al, 2013)
- Correlation with poor respiratory function (De Carvalho et al, 2010; Nakamura et al, 2013)

Issues associated with Head Drop

- Swallow
- Breathing/NIV
- Visual Field
- AT for communication/
computer access
- Pain
- Pressure injuries
- Social
embarrassment
- Carer stress

(Gourie-Devi et al, 2003; Alghadir et al, 2017; Burakgazi et al, 2019; Oliver, 2019)

Head Support Strategies

- Positioning
 - Recliner
 - High Back Chair
 - Wheelchair
- Neck collars
 - Soft collar
 - Hard collar
- Wheelchair Headrests



Positioning



Collars

Soft Collar



Hensinger



Oxford



Headmaster



LA Wire



Aspen Vista



Philadelphia



Head Up



Headrests



Case Study 1



Case Study 2



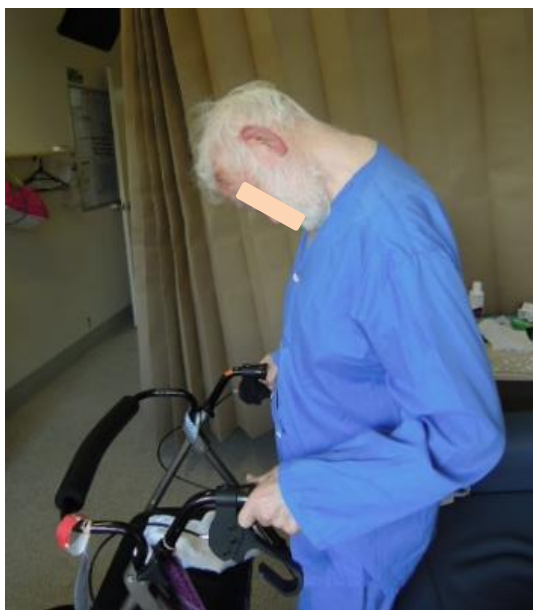
Case Study 3



Case Study 4



Case Study 5



Summary

- Positioning is vital
- There is no recipe
- Patient centred care
- Adapt to MND progression
- Be creative with head supports!



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