

Special Issue

A New Insight into Vestibular Exploration

Message from the Guest Editor

Acute and chronic balance disorders are one of the main reasons for seeking consultation with general practitioners, audiologists or ENT specialists. Etiologies are broadly categorized into peripheral and central causes. Since symptoms can overlap, a comprehensive physical examination can help differentiate the two. The strategy is different depending on whether the patient is in the acute or chronic phase. In the first case, diagnostics alone are often sufficient. The latter is more complex. Vestibular compensation may have modified or eliminated spontaneous signs or those generated by clinical maneuvers, but not necessarily the symptoms. The apparent normality of instrumental tests does not guarantee that the vestibular system continues to provide correct information from a perceptive point of view. Finally, the inevitable emotional and cognitive consequences of the chronic disorder pollute and worsen the clinical picture. For these reasons, we want to reconsider the diagnostic strategy and focus on the often overlooked perceptive, emotional and cognitive aspects, which play a decisive role in the diagnosis as well as the pharmacological and especially re-educational treatment.

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