

IQoro is an innovative treatment for patients with dysphagia and other related conditions

IQoro is a new and innovative treatment for those with swallowing difficulties, listed on the Drug Tariff from May 1st, 2022.



IQoro is a neuromuscular treatment that stimulates normal sensory and motor nerve activity to strengthen and coordinate weakened musculature, including the muscles in the swallowing chain, the face, those concerned with postural control, and more.

IQoro is a simple handheld device that a patient uses in three daily training sessions of 30 seconds each.

Treating dysphagia

Patients' swallowing difficulties, often long standing, may be managed with compensatory techniques such as modified food and drinks. Others may be fed enterally. IQoro is a simple neuromuscular treatment that addresses the most common cause of the following symptoms:

- Dysfunctional swallow
- Drooling
- Reduced facial function
- Reliance on thickened drinks
- Reliance on modified diets
- Nil by mouth
- Aspirational pneumonia
- Weak voice

How IQoro works

When first inserted, and during the training sequence, IQoro stimulates the sensory nerves to send intense bursts of stimuli to the brain stem via the upward transmitting "afferent" nerves.

This stimulation provokes a sensory motor nerve reflex arc that causes the downward transmitting "efferent" nerves to send motor signals to the 148 muscles in the swallowing chain, and to other muscles controlled by the autonomic system. The effect is to improve both neurological and muscular competence.

Afferent signal

- up to the brain

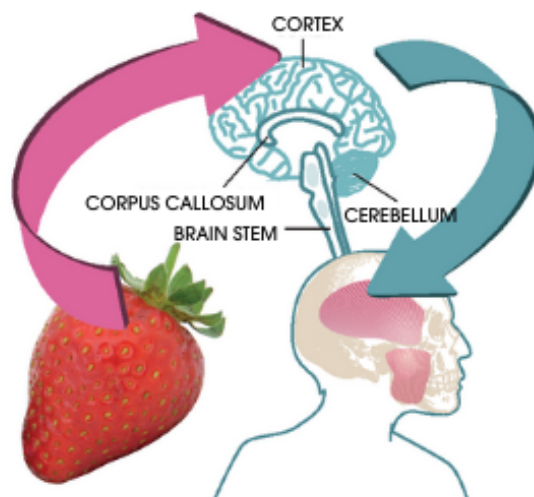
Sensation/feeling

Pressure

Touch

Taste

Temperature



Efferent signal

- from the brain

to the muscles

Evidence of efficacy and applicability in the NHS

IQoro efficacy is supported by 15 peer-reviewed and internationally published scientific studies.

A recent service evaluation conducted by the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Trust and supported by the South West Academic Science Network evaluated the suitability of IQoro in NHS acute, in-patient rehab, and community settings. It concluded that IQoro therapy can have a positive impact on function and Quality of Life in relation to eating and drinking in patients with chronic dysphagia.

Contraindications

In our clinical experience, there are three contra-indications that preclude the use of IQoro:

- Trigeminal neuralgia
- Paraesophageal hernia
- Achalasia Cardiae

And these two conditions require extra thought and care:

- Tinnitus
- Peripheral facial palsy

See our website for more details: www.iqoro.com/what-is-iqoro/when-is-iqoro-suitable-or-not-suitable-for-use/

Prescribing details

IQoro is listed in the Drug Tariff Part IX from May 1st, 2022. It can be found under 'Appliances' in the category 'Neuromuscular Treatment Devices'.

The two versions of IQoro listed there are:

- Adult size 214-001T
- Child size 214-002T (normally up to 12 years old)