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Research in Neurofeedback: Measuring Our Progress?

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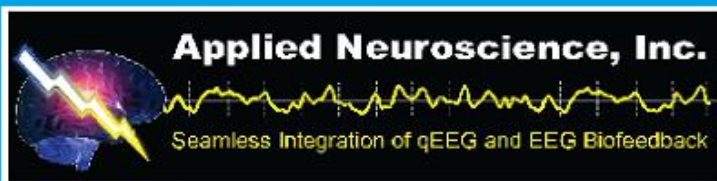
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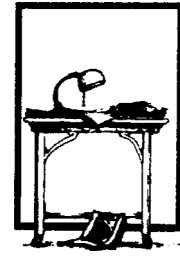
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EDITORIAL



Research in Neurofeedback: Measuring Our Progress?

This issue is a measuring stick for the *Journal of Neurotherapy (JN)* and the International Society for Neurofeedback and Research. The original Comprehensive Neurofeedback Bibliography (Hammond, 2001) served long as a reference for persons new to neurofeedback or looking to treat specific diagnosis or conditions. In this issue, *JN* published the Comprehensive Neurofeedback Bibliography: 2007 Update compiled and maintained by associate editor D. Cory Hammond, PhD. While reading the new Comprehensive Neurofeedback Bibliography: 2007 Update, I wondered how many new articles were published since 2001. Table 1 shows the results of counting and comparing the Comprehensive Neurofeedback Bibliography (Hammond, 2001) and the Comprehensive Neurofeedback Bibliography: 2007 Update.

Table 1 shows 140 published articles in the area of neurofeedback in the last 6 years, about 24 per year or 1 to 2 articles every month since 2001. The single greatest increase was in theoretical-conceptual, standards, and review articles from 0 to 22, suggesting that readers have several summary sources for information rather than reading individual articles. Other areas were not in existence in 2001 and show

a basis for future development; general articles on slow cortical potential neurofeedback increased from 0 to 3, LENS: Low Energy Neurofeedback System from 0 to 9, hemoencephalography (HEG) from 0 to 5, and LOR-ETA neurofeedback from 0 to 3 articles. Finally, the areas of ADD/ADHD, learning and developmental disabilities, and academic-cognitive enhancement (48 to 36) and brain injury, stroke, coma, spasticity, and cerebral palsy (14 to 14) showed a similar level of publications. The remaining areas are about the same or unchanged.

Collectively, we can take a couple minutes to pat our selves on the back, but we have a long future ahead of us. We need to continue to publish quality articles in the many areas of clinical treatment with neurofeedback. We have come a long way but have a lot of work ahead of us. Many times I recall the saying from my college football coach, “You are only as good as the last game you played,” and the phrase “The field of neurofeedback is only as good as the last publication” applies to research in neurofeedback.

Tim Tinius, PhD
Editor

TABLE 1. Comparison of the 2001 and 2007 comprehensive neurofeedback bibliography.

	Published	
	Before 2001	2001–2007
Epilepsy	38	7
ADD/ADHD, learning & developmental disabilities, & academic-cognitive enhancement	48	36
Anxiety disorders, PTSD, & sleep disorders	26	8
Depression, withdrawal, hemispheric asymmetry, anger, & PMS	13	7
Addictive disorders	14	2
Brain injury, stroke, coma, spasticity, & cerebral palsy	14	14
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia, & Autoimmune Dysfunction	5	2
Pain & headache	9	1
Schizophrenia	2	0
Obsessive compulsive disorder	0	2
Parkinson's Dystonia	0	1
Tourette's Syndrome	1	0
Autism	1	2
Creativity, optimal functioning, countering cognitive decline with aging	1	9
Asthma	1	0
Hypertension	1	0
Dissociative disorders	2	0
Tinnitus	1	2
Criminal & juvenile offenders	1	2
Medical conditions	0	2
Adverse reactions	0	1
Theoretical-conceptual, standards, & review articles	0	22
General articles on slow cortical potential neurofeedback	0	3
LENS: Low Energy Neurofeedback System	0	9
Hemoencephalography	0	5
LORETA neurofeedback	0	3
Total	176	140

Note: Reference: Hammond, D. C. (2001). Comprehensive neurofeedback bibliography. *Journal of Neurotherapy*, 5(1–2), 113–128.

REFERENCES

- Hammond, D. C. (2001). Comprehensive neurofeedback bibliography. *Journal of Neurotherapy*, 5(1–2), 113–128.