

Supplemental Material

Table 1: Physiotherapy evidence database (PEDro) scores of included studies

Study, Year of Publication	PEDro scale items ^a											PEDro score (0–10)
	1 ^b	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Wang, 2012 ¹⁷	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	8
Chieffo, 2014 ¹¹	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	10
Kim, 2014 ¹²	+	+	+	+	+	–	+	–	+	+	+	8
Lin, 2015 ¹³	+	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	8
Sasaki, 2016 ¹	+	–	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	7
Gu, 2016 ⁹	+	–	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	7
Cha, 2017 ¹⁵	+	+	+	+	–	–	+	+	+	+	+	8
Wang, 2018 ¹⁹	+	+	–	+	+	–	+	+	+	+	+	8

^a1. eligibility criteria and source of participants; 2. random allocation; 3. concealed allocation; 4. baseline comparability; 5. blinded participants; 6. blinded therapists; 7. blinded assessors; 8. adequate follow-up; 9. intention-to-treat analysis; 10. between-group comparisons; 11. point estimates and variability; ^bItem 1 did not contribute to the total score.

High quality, PEDro score 6–10; fair quality, PEDro score 4–5; poor quality, PEDro score ≤ 3.

Table 2. The subgroup analysis of mean post-stroke time and stimulation mode					
Subgroup	Studies	Participants	Mean Difference [95% confidence interval]	<i>P</i>	<i>I</i> ²
1. Body function – mean post-stroke time					
≥6 months	4	71	0.69 [0.20–1.18] ^a	0.005 ^b	0%
<6 months	3	72	0.64 [0.12–1.16] ^a	0.02 ^b	13%
Subgroup difference				0.89 ^c	0%
2. Body function – stimulation mode					
Excitation (≥5 Hz)	5	88	0.70 [0.26–1.14] ^a	0.002 ^b	0%
Suppression (≤1 Hz)	2	55	0.61 [-0.07–1.29]	0.08 ^b	34%
Subgroup difference				0.83 ^c	0%
3. Activities and participation – mean post-stroke time					
≥6 months	3	62	0.88 [0.24–1.53] ^a	0.007 ^b	28%
<6 months	3	73	0.46 [-0.19–1.12]	0.17 ^b	43%
Subgroup difference				0.37 ^c	0%
4. Activities and participation – stimulation mode					
Excitation (≥5 Hz)	4	79	0.75 [0.29–1.22] ^a	0.002 ^b	0%
Suppression (≤1 Hz)	2	56	0.49 [-0.72–1.70]	0.43 ^b	78%
Subgroup difference				0.69 ^c	0%
^a indicates a significant difference in the comparison between rTMS and placebo groups in the equivalent <i>z</i> test					
^b indicates <i>P</i> value of the equivalent <i>z</i> test, which is the result of meta-analysis between rTMS and placebo groups					
^c indicates <i>P</i> value of Cochran’s <i>Q</i> test, which is the result of subgroup analysis between these subgroups					

Appendix 1. Search strategy

#1	stroke
#2	cerebrovascular
#3	CVA
#4	cerebral and infarction
#5	cerebral and hemorrhag*
#6	brain and infarction
#7	brain and hemorrhag*
#8	ICH
#9	intracranial and hemorrhag*
#10	stroke[MeSH]
#11	#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10
#12	lower limb
#13	lower limbs
#14	lower extremit*
#15	hip or hips
#16	thigh or thighs
#17	knee or knees
#18	leg or legs
#19	ankle or ankles

#20	foot or feet
#21	ambula*
#22	walk or walking
#23	gait
#24	#12 OR #13 OR #14 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19 OR #20 OR #21 OR #22 OR #23
#25	rTMS
#26	"repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation"
#27	#25 OR #26
#28	#11 AND #24 AND #27
Filters:	Pubmed: Randomized Controlled Trial Cochrane Library: Trials Embase: Randomized Controlled Trial