coworkers demonstrated that pain induced by chronic mental stress was correlated with the muscle activity of the postural muscle-the trapezius, but not non-postural muscles-in this case, the head muscles [14]. T e authors concluded that the trapezius muscle EMG response may be part of a general stress response that causes pain independently of motor activity in overall muscles.

| Muscle | Method | Findings | Authors |
|---|---|---|---|
| Trapezius, painful | Multichannel surface EMG[1], isometric contractions with 0, 1, 2 and 4 kg load | Increased CV[2] | Gerdle et al. [15] |
| Biceps brachii, non-painful | Surface EMG, array electrode, 30 s isometric contractions at 60% MVC[3] | Increased CV | Casale et al. [16] |
| Biceps brachii, non-painful | Surface EMG, array electrode, 4 s static contractions at 0-10% MVC | Increased CV | Klaver-Krol et al. [17] |
| Biceps brachii, non-painful | Surface EMG, array electrode, prolonged dynamic contractions at 0-20% MVC | Increased CV | Klaver-Krol et al. [18] |
| Opponens pollicis, non-painful | Surface EMG, ischemic and post-ischemic conditions | “Tetany” features: spontaneous long-lasting repetitive EMG burst | Vitali et al. [25] |
| Trapezius | Needle EMG inserted into the MTP[4] | Characteristic MTP activity | Hubbard et al. [30] |
| Various muscles | Needle EMG into the MTP | Characteristic MTP activity | Ge et al. [28] |

[1]EMG, electromyography; [2]CV, Muscle fiber conduction velocity; [3]MVC, maximum voluntary contraction force; [4]MTP, Myofascial trigger point

symptoms are not reproduced, the MTP is considered as latent. Clinically, only active MTPs are relevant, as the latent MTPs are present in many muscles of every individual [29]. T e MTPs can be investigated by means of a needle EMG, and it is the only

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