



UvA-DARE (Digital Academic Repository)

Masticatory muscle pain: Causes, consequences, and diagnosis

Koutris, M.

Publication date
2013

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Koutris, M. (2013). *Masticatory muscle pain: Causes, consequences, and diagnosis*.

General rights

It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations

If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: <https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact>, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

Acknowledgements / Dankwoord / Ευχαριστίες

Athens, September, 2013

One of the most important things that I realized during the years of preparation of this thesis is that putting my thoughts in paper is a demanding and difficult task. And now, at this end, here comes a more challenging task: to put my emotions and my gratefulness in words! And there are many people that made the dream of completing this thesis come true.

Dear professor Naeije, Beste Chiel, your critical approach to every thought / plan / word / sentence / paragraph / discussion have allowed me to totally change the way of approaching both research and clinical practice. I am sincerely grateful for all the time and effort you invested in making me mature as a researcher and clinician. And even though I admit that I often had difficult times during and after our discussion, it was almost always the case that I thought: “You were right!” And “Why did I not think that aspect before?”

Dear professor Lobbezoo, Beste Frank, from your first reply to my e-mail expressing my interest to come to Amsterdam for the advanced master program in Oral Kinesiology (back in July 2004) until our current close collaboration, it has been an enthusiastic experience working together with you. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to study at OKI, to learn from you, and to work in a fine group. Special thanks for encouraging and helping me with international collaborations and projects, but also supporting me in nice but also difficult professional and personal moments.

Dear dr. Visscher, Beste Corine, our close collaboration during the last project of this thesis made me appreciate your hard work and your skills in both statistics and critical thinking and writing. You had the ability to read my thoughts before expressing them in words. This made our meetings and discussions extremely fascinating with new ideas coming up. Thanks a lot for these moments!

Dear dr. van der Zaag, Beste Jacques, thanks to you I had the opportunity to improve my clinical skills at OKI. Our discussions inside and outside ACTA meant a lot for my current and future decisions in life and science.

Dear dr. van Selms, Beste Maurits, you have been the one giving me plenty of advice when I started the first project of this thesis. I will never forget all your practical details regarding procedures, practical issues, and protocol preparations. You have always been present when a question came up, when an extra statistical test was needed, when we both had to deal with longitudinal data... But above all, I would like to thank you for being present everyday at ACTA. Not (only) for the candies that were available whenever a break was needed; mainly for your strength! I deeply admire the things you achieve on an everyday

basis that have been an example for me to overcome difficult moments. Maurits, thanks a lot!

Dear professor Farina, Dear Dario, your Italian temperament and your hard work gave a significant initial boost during my stay at the Center for Sensory-Motor Interaction at Aalborg. Our different background was only an advantage that resulted in a lot of data and two of the studies included in this thesis. Moreover, your way of pioneering thinking on data organization and analysis has influenced all my future studies.

Dear professor Türker, Dear Kemal, you gave me the chance to work in a fine laboratory in Izmir, but also visit places with huge historical load for Greek people. My fears when moving to Izmir immediately disappeared when meeting you and your group in person. I will always remember the nice moments and the extremely fruitful collaboration at the “other side of the Aegean”.

Dear professor Droukas, thank you for giving me the passion for the field of Orofacial Pain and your support and advice during my career!

Dear dr W. de Boer, Beste Wim, thank you very much for your knowledge and your advice. Your medical background was a source of very interesting discussions.

Beste Ko and Bart, your knowledge and your technical skills were extremely important for the studies performed at the laboratories of our department. I am sincerely grateful for all your work.

Beste Marylee and Wendy, thank you for your knowledge and experience that improved not only my patient care but also myself.

Beste Hanneke, Samara, Elaine, Inge, Rianne, and Els, you have always been the support of my work at OKI. Thank you very much for all your daily contribution on all the aspects of the work at OKI.

Lieve Ghizlane, our common roots around the Mediterranean Sea meant a lot of cultural similarities. This created a special connection between us two. We also shared our ambition for working on research, patient care, private practice, and at the same time trying to combine free time on our busy schedule. Thanks for the inspiring moments!

Lieve Annemiek, we really had something like parallel research lives inside ACTA. And you were always the positive energy and power of the PhD room. Thank you for giving me

the feeling that you were a discreet person I could always trust. And this always gave me a relaxed feeling.

Lieve Stani, we both left our countries to study and pursue our dreams in the Netherlands. This made us share our ambition and many difficult moments. Thanks for all the discussions and nice moments we had together.

Dear Carlijn van der Lugt, Dear Alwine te Veldhuis, Dear Emeline te Veldhuis, Dear Carolina Marpaung, Dear Maria Valiente-Lopez, Dear Adriaan Klitsie, Dear Magdalena Osiewicz, Dear Hasti Parvaneh, Dear Mohamed Magdy Attallah. Dear Georgine Vervoorn-Vis, Dear Erin Suijkerbuijk, Dear Adamantia Byraki, Dear Jessika Chin Jen Sem, you have been the young heart of OKI. Thanks for the inspiring moments inside and outside ACTA.

A special thanks to the Research Institute of ACTA and especially Vincent Everts, Martijn van Steenberg, and Martine Meijer, thank you for your support throughout my PhD research.

Beste Daan and Uyen, together with the entire staff of the Referral practice for Endodontology and Gnathology Hoorn, I am grateful for the opportunity you gave me to increase my clinical experience in a very nice working environment!

All my Greek friends, and especially Kostas Syriopoulos, Chryssa Papagianni, Socratis Katsamakis, Maria Nikolopoulou, Kostas Kouroupis, Dimitris Papapanagiotou, Anna Louropoulou, Pavlos Papakonstantinou, Lida Kalogeraki, Victoria Ntrouka thank for your presence in Amsterdam that made the distance to Greece seem shorter.

A special thanks to everybody that participated and contributed to the studies included in this thesis. Without your contribution it would have been impossible to complete this work!

Dear Yiannis Vergoullis and Cathy Badell, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to offer my knowledge and experience in relieving orofacial pain of patients at the Vergoullis Dental Clinic in Rodos. This has been a great chance for me to combine my work with a monthly visit to my family, something extremely important for my emotional balance.

Beste Peter, Miranda, Robert, and Maarten Wetselaar, you have always been my family in the Netherlands! Since my first visit to your house in 2004 we have spent several moments together: moments of hard work, of deep emotions, of worries, of joy. We celebrated successes, we discussed our difficult moments, we made plans for the future. All these

resulted in a strong friendship through the years. A small gesture of my sincere gratefulness is the dedication of this thesis to you all. Because words cannot fully express everything you offered me all these years...

Dear Leandros, Stefanos, Thanasis, and Theodore, your friendship and our common ambitions go back in several years now. The time we spent together gave me a lot of strength to go on with my work and complete this thesis!

A special thanks to Laertis Vassiliou for his help and contribution to the design and the illustration of the cover of this book!

Dear Roula Fotopoulou and Angeliki Tsiliagkou, you were always there to support Katerina, Roula, in combination with my professional choices. Knowing that, always gave me a safe feeling when being abroad. Thank you for all your support!

My beloved grandmother, Nina Kountouri, thank you very much for your support since my school years. You have always been the strong reference point for the entire family all these years.

My dear parents Thomas and Evangelia Koutris, I know that you had to make big sacrifices to support my studies in Greece and abroad. But you never complained... You were always present, understanding everything, even though I always tried to inform you only about the good news and hide the difficult moments. Thank you very much for the way you brought me up and all the principles you inherited me!

My beloved brother Thodoris and my beloved sister Katerina, I was always the “little brother” of the family spending more time studying and at home than going out. We were brought up together sharing difficult but also happy moments. Thank you for being present all these years.

Dear Thomais Zoannou, I hope that you are able to see/feel the completion of this work. You always encouraged and motivated me to study and work hard...

My beloved Katerina, without your support, none of the things I have accomplished during the last years would have been possible... I love you! My beloved little Roula, you were the reason for me to try harder and harder to finalize this thesis! A special dedication of this work to you both!