



PHYSICAL THERAPY  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# Subjects Needed for Spasmodic Dysphonia Research

The Program of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science at the University of Minnesota is conducting a research study titled: *Pathophysiology of Laryngeal dystonia: a combined TMS and fMRI study*. The purpose of the study is to use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) to determine the structure and excitability of the brain between healthy subjects and those diagnosed with laryngeal dystonia or spasmodic dysphonia to gain a better understanding of the cause of the disorder. TMS is a safe, non-invasive, painless procedure which allows researchers to measure the excitability of portions of the brain. A physician will place fine wire electrodes into the vocal cord muscle to monitor activity.

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## Requirements

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- Greater than 18 years of age, but we are especially in need of people 55-70 years of age.
- Symptoms of laryngeal dystonia, spasmodic dysphonia or healthy person without dystonia
- No history of seizure within the last two years
- Participation includes two sessions lasting 2-3 hrs.
- At the completion of the study you will be paid \$100

## More Information:

**Contact Rebekah at (612) 626-0637 or [schm2203@umn.edu](mailto:schm2203@umn.edu)**

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