Programmable direct and alternating current stimulator

The DC-STIMULATOR MR combines the DC-STIMULATOR PLUS and the use for application in fMRI scanners. The DC-STIMULATOR PLUS is a stimulator for use in scientific research. It provides a stimulation with weak currents, either direct or alternating, (transcranial Electrical Stimulation - tES), within non-invasive Interventional Neurophysiology.

The electrical charge and current density applied through a constant current source are far below the threshold for releasing a stimulus. Depending on the duration, the used current, the current density, and the frequency the stimulation has a modular effect on existing neuronal elements by either activating or inhibiting cortical activity.

The DC-STIMULATOR MR allows to apply tES during functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to localize the exact position of cortical activation.

Advantages of the DC-STIMULATOR MR:

- highest patient safety standards due to multistage monitoring of the current path, automatic termination of the stimulation as well as continuous monitoring of the electrode impedance
- intuitive menu navigation via display and four buttons
- individual setting and saving of the stimulation parameters
- programmable treatment schedule and limited menu access*
- study mode for double-blind active and sham stimulation*
- signal output for online-correction of the EEG signal during tDCCS or tACS/tRNS*

* optional
DC-STIMULATOR MR technical specifications

- adjustable current (DC) up to 4,500 µA in increments of 25 µA
- adjustable current (AC) up to 3,000 µA (peak-to-peak)
- additional MRI protective resistor of approx. 5 kOhm in each electrode
- internal 16bit D/A conversion
- internal time resolution < 1 ms (sample rate 2,048 sps)
- stimulation mode “tDCS”: duration 15–1,800 s, increment 15 s, duration of fade in / fade out 1–120 s, increment 1 s
- stimulation mode “Pulse”: duration of complete pulse cycle/interstimulus interval (ISI) 300–2,000 ms, increment 100 ms, pulse width 200– (ISI–100), increment 100 s, number of pulse cycles 1–500
- stimulation mode “Sinus”: adjustable current up to 3,000 µA (p-p) in 25 µA increments, offset of 0 to ±1,000 µA, increment 10 µA, frequencies up to 250 Hz, increment 0.01 Hz, adjustable phase 0–360° in 5° steps, application time adjustable up to 30 min
- stimulation modes “Noise”, “Noise LF”, “Noise HF”: adjustable current up to ±1,500 µA (p-p), offset of 0 up to ±1,000 µA, increment 50 µA, duration 0–1,800 s** in 5 s increments, current adjustable over period of 0–120 s to reach and leave oscillation level
- max. voltage limitation ±20 V / 35 V*
- power supply from built-in rechargeable batteries
- approx. 6 h stimulation time at 1 mA, approx. 7 h for complete recharging
- alphanumeric display with backlight, membrane keypad with 4 keys
- contact-protected electrode connection in accordance with DIN 42802-2 (ø 1.5 mm)
- power consumption approx. 1.2 W (depends on display brightness and applied current)
- dimensions in cm: 13.5 x 22.5 x 5.5 (W x D x H), weight incl. batteries 0.8 kg
- max. voltage limitation ±20 V / 35 V*

Further options:
- Trigger module to connect external triggers safely
- phase-synchronous trigger output when sinus stimulation used

DC-STIMULATOR MR Features

- microprocessor-controlled constant current source
- 1 channel, unipolar (DC) and bipolar (AC) stimulation possible
- use during fMRI, no interference of the fMRI images during EPI sequence
- suitable for 1.5 and 3 Tesla systems
- high safety standard through multistage monitoring of the current path
- external trigger input*
- external trigger output*