The same dysarthria in different languages: perceptual and Acoustic characteristics of Korean speakers with PD Y. Kim, Y. Choi

Our current knowledge on dysarthria is somewhat limited partly because of the fact that previous studies have been mostly conducted on individuals with dysarthria whose native language is American English. The scarcity of data on speech characteristics of dysarthria in non-English speakers provides not only practical limitations in applying the knowledge to non-American English speakers with dysarthria, but also theoretical limitations in understanding dysarthria itself, such as the relationship between underlying pathophysiology and speech output.

This presentation aims to provide preliminary data on perceptual and acoustic characteristics of Korean speakers with Parkinson disease. Korean was chosen because it is different from American English in several interesting aspects, including its relatively simple vowel system, complex stop consonants, and monotonous prosody. At the meeting, perceptual and acoustic data from 5 Korean male speakers with Parkinson disease will be reported in comparison to 5 age-matched healthy Korean speakers. The results will be discussed with respect to 1) Korean-unique characteristics of speakers with Parkinson's disease, and 2) common acoustic characteristics of Parkinson's disease between Korean and American English by referring to previous literature on American-English speakers with Parkinson's disease.