



PERFORMING ARTS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



ORTHOPAEDIC SECTION
AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION



APTA
American Physical Therapy Association
The Science of Healing. The Art of Caring.

Focal Dystonia – CITATION SUMMARY

SEPTEMBER, 2006

For medical professionals including physical therapists, focal dystonia has been difficult to diagnosis and treat due to its debatable etiology. Focal dystonia is a debilitating professional disorder in musicians that can decrease their performance levels and may lead to the end of their career. Instrumentalists with this disorder are unable to coordinate the movements and control muscle contractions in the affected areas often involving arms, hands or mouth. Although its etiology is still debated, focal dystonia has been found to result from several origins. The purpose of this annotated bibliography is to help physical therapists obtain insight on focal dystonia and answer questions such as: What are the possible origins of the disorder and effective treatments that have been supported by current research? I hope this will be a helpful resource for you.

[Return to Menu](#)