Data Collection

Results of the literature search yielded ten articles consistent with the selection criteria: one systematic review, four experimental single subject studies, and

Group study #3: Tjaden and Wilding (2004) conducted a within groups repeated measures study with condition comparisons (level 2b evidence) with 15 individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS) and spastic/ataxic dyarthria, 12 individuals with PD and hypokinetic dysarthria, and 15 neurologically healthy speakers in order to examine the effects of articulatory rate

with dysarthria described with sufficient detail (nine of whom demonstrated hypokinetic dysarthria, and the others demonstrated unilateral upper motor neuron dysarthria, flaccid dysarthria, ataxic dysarthria, spastic dysarthria, and mixed dysarthria). Rate reduction methods were the same as in the study by Van Nuffelen et al. (2009). Some information about measures obtained in this study was not presented, however, the previous study used similar methods and measures. Two-minute reading samples were collected from individuals using habitual speech and each of the seven rate control methods. Intelligibility was rated by three SLPs using a 100mm visual analogue scale. Strong interrater reliability was reported (intraclass correlation coefficient=.85).

Each of the rate control methods resulted in significant SR reductions

Despite these inconsistencies, six of the nine studies presented good reliability measures for ratings of intelligibility.

In conclusion, the literature provides suggestive evidence that