

placed invasive EEG monitoring allowing “super-focal” corticectomy in MRI-negative epilepsy.

A0029: Clinical Profile and Health-Related Quality of Life in Patients with Alcohol-Related Seizures

Muhammad,¹ Prasanth S.R.,¹ Shaji C.V.,¹ Jithin Raj¹

¹Govt TD Medical College, Alappuzha, Kerala, India

Background: Alcohol-related seizures (ARS) refer to all seizures associated with alcohol use, including alcohol withdrawal seizures (AWS). There is paucity of literature on health-related quality of life (HRQoL) in alcohol-dependent subjects and its relation to clinical pattern of ARS in developing countries.

Objective: To study the clinical profile and HRQoL of patients admitted with alcohol-related seizures in a tertiary care center.

Materials and Methods: In this cross-sectional study, consecutive patients admitted with new onset ARS (from July 2014 to February 2016) were included. Patients with previous diagnosis of epilepsy, with other provoking causes and those not consenting were excluded. Details of drinking pattern were analyzed. Alcohol dependence was identified by Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), score more than 8 was taken as positive. HRQoL was assessed by Life Situation Survey (LSS) questionnaire. A video electroencephalography and CT brain (MRI in focal seizures) was done in all patients.

Results: Of the 124 study subjects, all were males. Mean age of the sample was 32.84 years (± 6.37 years). The average daily consumption was 176 g (± 140 g). Mean duration of alcohol intake was 17.24 years (± 5.24 years). Nineteen (15.3%) patients had a family history of seizure. In focal seizures, MRI revealed symptomatic lesions in three patients. Occurrence of multiple seizures correlated with higher AUDIT scores. Patients with LSS score < 80 had significantly higher AUDIT score and longer duration of alcohol intake ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusion: A protocol-based evaluation of ARS is necessary, to identify etiologies other than withdrawal. MRI brain is useful in focal onset ARS, to identify underlying symptomatic lesions (33.3% of partial seizures). Patients with higher AUDIT scores are more likely to have multiple seizures and a poorer HRQoL.

A0030: Awareness and Attitudes of General Physicians' toward Epilepsy Surgery

Natesan D.,¹ Saminathan,¹ Poovizhi,¹ Pratheesh Ravindran¹

¹Department of Neurosurgery, Mahatma Gandhi Medical College and Research Institute, Pondicherry, India

Objective: Over 30% of the people with epilepsy (poW) are resistant to medications. There is a significant surgical gap in India as only a minority of candidates for epilepsy surgery is referred for surgical evaluation. We investigated general physicians' views on referral of epilepsy patients for further evaluation and epilepsy surgery.

Materials and Methods: A questionnaire was developed and validated by a pilot study. The electronic questionnaire

was sent out to general physicians, practicing in towns of southern India. We collected response from 140 doctors.

Results: Sixty-nine percent of the respondents worked in government hospitals. Eighty-four percent of them felt MRI and EEG were essential for epilepsy evaluation. But 55% felt CT brain and X-ray were essential for epilepsy evaluation. On commenting about treatment, 85% felt other modalities in addition to medications were necessary for epilepsy treatment. Psychotherapy was the commonest add-on for antiepileptics. Seventy-six percent felt resective brain surgery was an option for PoW. Only 39% considered vagal stimulation as a treatment option. Only 24% of the respondents knew the correct definition of drug-resistant epilepsy. More than two thirds were willing to refer their epilepsy patients to neurologist. Regarding safety of epilepsy surgery safety, 67% did not have any experience and only 24% felt it was safe. Only 36% felt epilepsy surgery had high cost-effectiveness in long-term perspective of eligible patients. Only 11% felt the epilepsy care in India was adequate and 17% felt it was grossly inadequate. Forty-seven percent of the physicians felt specialized epilepsy training program to doctors of primary health center and district hospitals would improve epilepsy care in India.

Conclusion: Most of the physicians had good understanding about inadequacies of epilepsy care in India. They felt the need for special training program for improving epilepsy care in India. Uncertainties about benefits of epilepsy surgery among referring general physicians may contribute to the delay in referral to epilepsy surgery.

A0031: Social Cognition Abilities in Patients with Chronic Temporal Lobe Epilepsy

Nishanth P.,¹ Suryaprabha,¹ Hemalatha,¹ Rukmini,¹ Rupam Borgohain¹

¹Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad, Telangana, India

Background: Social cognition is a high-level cognitive function that includes all the processes that are used to understand and store information about the interactions with other people in a social context. Perception of social signals pertaining to others' mental states is essential to act appropriately in that social context. Low performances in mentalizing abilities on different Theory of Mind (ToM) tasks have been reported in patients with temporal lobe epilepsy (TLE).

Aim: To investigate social cognition abilities in patients with temporal lobe epilepsy.

Materials and Methods: Thirty-two consecutive patients with TLE (19 males; mean age = 27 ± 11.7 years) and 30 controls (mean age = 25.24 ± 5.9 years) are taken into study. Demographic profile, age at onset, ictal semiology, seizure frequency, and response to treatment are studied. All underwent prolonged video EEG monitoring, MRI brain to locate the side of lesion. Affective and cognitive aspects of Faux Pas in the form of 20 stories are assessed in both patients and controls.