

Frequency of Mental and Behavioural Disorders in Patients with Dementia

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Abstract:

Background: Data from literature showed that both in early stages of neurodegenerative diseases and during their evolution, dementia symptoms are associated with other psychiatric disorders, such depression, or behavioural symptoms, agitation and aggression being the more frequent.

Aims: To detect the frequency of some psychiatric disorders in patients diagnosed with different types of dementia, resident in Tirana Region No.1.

Method: The study involved 257 people diagnosed with various types of dementia, from the neurologist or psychiatrist, resident in Tirana Region No.1. All subjects had done the neuroimaging assessment and a detailed psychiatric interview by psychiatrists of Mental Health Community Center No.1. Data were dropped in Microsoft Excel and processed with SPSS 12.1 program.

Results and Discussion: Psychiatric symptomatology it's split into apathy, depression, aggressive behaviour and agitation. These problems were found after the visit of psychiatrists and it's reflected in individual files of subjects that take part in the study. The diagnosis was established on the basis of DSM- IV criteria. Cases have been under medical treatment, and are followed in a dynamic way in the house by multidisciplinary center team formed by a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker and nurse. Out of the total of 257 subjects diagnosed with dementia, 154 (60%) had degenerative dementia, 77 (30%) had vascular dementia and 26 (10%) had other dementia.

Conclusion: By the above-mentioned facts, we conclude that psychiatric symptomatology is dominant in all kinds of dementia. Diversity and their gravity it is depended on the stage of the disease and treatment received.

Keywords

Dementia, Psychiatric Disorders, Behaviour