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Poster Presentation

The Connection Between Epilepsy and Depression

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Abstract

Introduction: Depression is the most common psychiatric problem in patients with epilepsy. These mood disorders in patients with epilepsy are often still remain unrecognized and untreated. The incidence of depression in epilepsy is significantly higher than that of the general population or patients with other neurological disorders. Depression may have an associated with on the quality- life of patients with epilepsy, sometimes even more than the seizures. The neuropsychiatric bases in epilepsy have attracted many researchers. The relationship between epilepsy and depression is not unidirectional, and some patients may have mood disorders before the onset of seizure. One of the reasons that may indicate a bidirectional relationship between depression and epilepsy, increased seizure risk following suicidal attempts. Several potential variables related to this issue for example: abnormal activity of several neurotransmitters including serotonin, noradrenalin, dopamine, GABA and glutamate and structural and functional abnormalities in temporal-and frontal-lobe. **Conclusion:** So far, psychotherapy for depression in epileptic patients has been used less. In the other hand, the efficiency of antidepressant drugs for depression in epilepsy is unknown. In epilepsy, in addition to stress, seizure-related states and depression and suicide events have also been reported. National psychiatric guidelines indicate that there are care models for stress management in these patients. The interaction between depression, seizures, treatment and psychosocial burden related to epilepsy, so neurologists play a key role in the treatment of epilepsy.

Keywords: Depression, Mood Disorders, Epilepsy.

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