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Recurrent seizures in hospitalized patients with Status Epilepticus: Risk factors and role for outcome

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Introduction: The rate of seizure recurrence is an important aspect of short-term outcome in patients with Status Epilepticus (SE) which has received scarce attention by few studies.

Purpose: Our purpose was to identify the risk factors for recurrent seizures during hospitalization of patients with SE and the role of seizure recurrence for functional outcome.

Methods: We performed a prospective study of 95 consecutive patients diagnosed with SE and treated in a neuro-intensive care unit over a period of 3 years. Demographics and clinical data concerning established epilepsy and SE were collected and their relationship to the rate of seizure recurrence was analyzed. SE functional outcome assessment was based on the results from the Glasgow Outcome Scale.

Results: There were single seizures in 26 (27.37) of our study participants after SE management, in 15 (15.79%) patients recurrent clusters of seizures or SE were observed. The rate of seizure recurrence was significantly higher in participants with longer duration of prior epilepsy and SE, SE poly therapy, recurrent SE, established epilepsy with polymorphic seizures, poor compliance and inadequate antiepileptic treatment. On multivariate regression analysis the predictive role of prior epilepsy duration and SE duration for seizure recurrence was confirmed $p < 0.001$ ($F = 14.52$). No correlation was found between the rate of seizure recurrence and functional outcome $p > 0.05$.

Conclusion: The study confirms the role of some clinical factors for the rate of seizure recurrence in hospitalized patients with SE and denies the direct association of seizure recurrence with functional outcome. Our results may be useful for finding more successful management strategies of the post-SE period.

Biography

Ekaterina Viteva studied at Medical University–Plovdiv, Department of Neurology. She is a Member of the Bulgarian Neurological Society, the Bulgarian Association of Neurosonology, the Bulgarian Society of Child Neurology, Psychiatry and Psychology of Development.

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