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Interictal dysphoric disorder: Is it specific for patients with epilepsy?

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Subgroup of patients with epilepsy may develop interictal dysphoric disorder (IDD)-intermittent and pleomorphic affective-somatoform disorder with 8 key symptoms grouped in 3 major categories: Labile depressive symptoms (depressive mood, anergia, pain and insomnia), labile affective symptoms (fear, anxiety) and supposedly "specific" symptoms: Paroxysmal irritability and euphoric moods). Purpose of study was to assess prevalence IDD in patients with epilepsy and with migraine; and to evaluate influence of IDD on quality of life in patients with epilepsy. Adult patients with definite diagnosis of epilepsy or migraine were assessed with interictal dysphoric disorder inventory (IDDI). Beck's depression inventory (BDI), Beck's anxiety inventory (BAI), and QOLIE-31 (Serbian version). In 89 patients with epilepsy (mean age 46.3±14.6; female 58.2%), prevalence of IDDI definite diagnosis was 12%, similar as in 67 patients with migraine (11%) (Mean age 38.7±13.4; female: 78.3%). IDDI affective scores were significantly higher in migraine than in epilepsy patients (p=0,017). In epilepsy group, IDDI total and partial affective score displayed a significant positive correlation with BDI and BAI scores. In migraine, group IDDI total score was highly positively correlated with BDI and BAI scores. QOLIE-31 total score was significantly negatively correlated with: IDDI total score (r=-0.355), IDDI depressive scores (r=-0.276) and IDDI affective scores (r=-0.415). IDD is not specific for patients with epilepsy but has some differences compared to migraine patients. IDDI total score, especially labile depressive symptoms and affective symptoms have significant influence on quality of life in patients with epilepsy.

Biography

Maja Milovanovic is working as Neurologist, Electroencephalographer and Epileptologist. She finished her Post-graduate Master's degree studies and PhD studies of Neurology at the School of Medicine, University of Belgrade. Her current position is Deputy Director of the Institute of Mental Health in Belgrade and Head of Department for Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology. She is member of Presidency of Serbian Society for Clinical Neurophysiology Chapter of the International Society of Clinical Neurophysiology. Special fields of her interest are epilepsy, psychiatric comorbidity and quality of life.

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