

CAT findings in schizophrenia : Relationship to subtypes, personality and psychodemographic data

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This study aimed to give a clue to the possible radiological presentations in CAT scanning of the schizophrenic population and to search for the different factors that may be associated with them. Sixty schizophrenic patients according to DSM-III criteria were assessed by clinical and radiological CAT scanning. The density of different brain regions was measured.

Patients had a significant central atrophy, increased mean density of both hemispheres, and nonsignificant higher incidence of mild, moderate cortical and cerebellar atrophy than did controls. 45% of patients had ventricular enlargement as equivalent to having a VBR more than 2 SD larger than that of the control group mean. Patients with larger ventricles have a significant higher incidence of negative symptoms, but they could not be differentiated from those with small ventricles regarding personality and psychodemographic variables. Schizophrenic illness may start frontally.