

Cognitive functions, mood, behavioral aspects and personality traits in adult males with idiopathic epilepsy

Shehata, Gaydaa. Batea, A.

Assiut Univ. (EGY). Fac. of Med.

Ain-Shams International Congress in Psychiatry : Towards Global Patient's Care. 3rd. Luxor (EGY). Mar 5-6, 2007

This study was designed to assess cognitive functions, mood aggression and personality traits among adult males with idiopathic epilepsy. Sixty-four right-handed male patients with idiopathic epilepsy were recruited from the Outpatient Epilepsy Clinic, Assuit University Hospitals according to inclusion criteria. Another 58 subjects of the same age and sex-matched adults were chosen as a control group. Each participant was subjected to complete medical history, clinical examination (with special emphasis on epilepsy-related factors) and EEG (for patients only), assessment of cognitive function using Stanford Benit (4th Edition), Beck for depression, aggressive scale and Eysenck personality questionnaire. The results showed that epileptic patients reported highly significant impairment across all measured cognitive measures, higher scores of depressive symptoms, aggressive behavior and most personality traits (especially among frontal lobe group, n = 52)) compared with the controls. Early age of onset, increased frequency of seizures, history of status epilepticus, number of AEDs and depressive symptoms showed significant negative correlation in some studied cognitive functions subscales. The study concluded that adult males with idiopathic epilepsy experience cognitive function deterioration, depression, aggression and some abnormal personality traits. Polytherapy, early age at onset, frequent seizure, status epilepticus and depression may increase the risk for negative cognitive dysfunction.