

Brain perfusion abnormalities in panic disorders : A SPECT study

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This work aimed to study the regional cerebral blood flow in panic patients with or without agoraphobia and with or without depression. Cases were diagnosed according to the ICD-10 criteria ; they were drug free for at least two weeks before the SPECT and they were medically and neurologically free. The controls had no apparent physical or psychiatric morbidity matched with the patients. The study concluded that there is a brain perfusion change in panic disorders. Assessment of three patients after treatment revealed normalization of cerebral blood flow, so cerebral blood flow changes in panic disorder patients tended to be a state marker.