Risk factors for dementia following cerebrovascular stroke

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The study aimed to evaluate the frequency of cognitive decline and dementia three months after stroke, identify the risk factors for developing cerebrovascular stroke and post stroke dementia and determine the relation between post stroke depression and cognitive impairment. They examined 81 consecutive patients with cerebrovascular stroke (54 males and 27 females). Fifty normal subjects (29 males and 21 females) were used as control group. They examined them within one week of acute onset of stroke and after three months. The study showed that the thalamic lesion was significantly higher in demented patients (35.3%) than non demented (3.13%). They found that 85% of male stroke patients were smokers, 46.9% of stroke patients were hypertensive, 25.9% of stroke patients had higher level of homocystiene and DM was present in 50.6 % of their patients. There was significant higher level of homocysteine in demented group (47.1%) than nondemented group (25.9%).

There was significant higher percentage of carotid artery stenosis in demented group (41.2%) than in non-demented group (22.2%). There was significant increased of atrial fibrillation (AF) in demented group (29.4%) than in non-demented group (1.6%). Regarding post stroke depression they found that the prevalence of depression after 3 months was 24.7% of cohort (20 of 81 patients). There was increased incidence of post stoke depression in ischemic stroke than in hemorrhagic stroke.

There was significant delayed latency of P200, N200 and P300 in depressed group compared with control group. There was a delayed P300 latency in depressed group compared with non-depressed group.