

Assessment of the early prognostic factors that affect the outcome after head injuries : The use of Glasgow outcome scale and disability rating scale

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Morbidity from head injury is increasing and accounts for a substantial proportion of chronic disablement in the community.

The aim of the present study was to evaluate the early prognostic factors that influence the outcome after head injury.

The study was conducted on 80 patients with head trauma admitted to the Critical Care Unit of Alexandria Main University Hospital.

Glasgow outcome Scale (GOS) and Disability Rating Scale (DRS) were used to assess the outcome of the patients. The study showed that the early prognostic factors that influence the outcome of head injured patients were : The age of the patient, the type of head injury, the systolic blood pressure and presence and presence of

spontaneous ventilation on admission as well as the severity of the injury assessed by Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) and the presence of pathological changes on CT scan.

The study concluded that DRS can assess the severity of the outcome after head injury better than GOS where it can detect smaller changes in patient's condition.