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Shared leadership: Creating a space for truth to empower, engage and strengthen relationships

Background & Aim: Headache is commonly associated with seizures as an inter-ictal, preictal, ictal or postictal phenomenon; it is often neglected because of the dramatic neurological manifestations of the seizure. A prospective study was designed to identify epidemiological association between headache and epilepsy and to evaluate the types and frequency of seizure-associated headaches in patients with epilepsy on anti-epileptics. The study aims to evaluate the type and frequency of headache in people with epilepsy and risk factors with special attention to the anatomic localization of the epileptogenic focus, seizure classification (focal versus generalized) while on antiepileptic drugs over a period of 3 months.

Method: Study was conducted at Outdoor Patient Department, Department of Neurology, Dayanand Medical College and Hospital, Ludhiana, India. Patients ≥ 17 years with a diagnosis of epilepsy more than two years on single antiepileptic agent with new onset headache, increase in frequency and severity of headache in epilepsy were taken. Headache data was analyzed according to IHS criteria, Epilepsy classified according to the 2010 (ILAE) commission report.

Result: 73 cases (29 female, males 44) on antiepileptic monotherapy were taken. Mean age was 26 years, median age at epilepsy onset was 15 years, median epilepsy duration was 8 years. Generalized epilepsy seen in 48 (66%), focal epilepsy 25 (33%). 23 (30%) reported headache, inter-IH in 15 (40%) and peri-IH occurred in 12 (50%) of these 5 (18.3%) had an associated inter-IH, 7 had headache related to the seizures, Carbamazepine, Levetiracetam, Valproate, Oxcarbamazepine, Lamictal was given to 17, 18, 29, 6, 2 patients of which 7, 5, 10, 21 had headache.

Biography

Salil Uppal is the Medical Director of Uppal Neuro Hospital in Amritsar, India. He is a Doctor of Medicine in Neurology. His area of interests is in stroke, epilepsy, neuro critical care and movement disorders. His research works include non-motor symptoms in Parkinson's disease, transcranial Doppler in acute ischemic stroke, epilepsy and migraine.

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