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L Ilievska, E Ilievska (Skopje):

Somatosensory evoked potentials in patients with thalamic pain

The aim of study was to examine how to the Somatosensory evoked potentials (SEPs) are affected in patients with cerebrovascular thalamic lesions and to correlate the findings with sensory abnormalities.

Methodology: SEPs are studied in 13 patients with unilateral cerebrovascular lesions affecting the thalamus .All of patients had a central post stroke pain and abnormal sensibility of the all modality. Main age was 66 years and was studied in relation to age-matched control group 50-80 years. Two-thirds of the lesions were on the right side of the brain. The SEP obtained in median nerve and posterior tibial nerve stimulation.

Results: In supratentorial lesions with thalamic involvement, SEP showed marked abnormalities with absence of all or single components on the affected side. We could differentiate several kinds of abnormalities in median nerve stimulation: a) absence of all waves after P15 (4 cases); b) presence of N20 and P40, which showed marked amplitude reduction (4 cases); c) presence of P40 only, but other components were absent (3 cases); and d) presence of early and absence of late SEP components after 40 ms (2 cases) SEP obtained over the non-affected side did not show latency changes, however, SEP amplitudes showed significant increase, especially of N60 in median or N75 wave in tibial nerve stimulation, which was particularly discussed in the paper.

Conclusion: The results of our SEPs examination in patients with thalamic cerebrovascular lesions were in accordance with sensory loss. It is based on the hypotheses that the transmitted activity is dispersed or abolished during its passage trough an insured zone.

Key words: thalamic pain, somatosensory evoked potentials, cerebrovascular lesion

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S Soldo-Butković, K Marjanović, M Kralj, S Tomić (Osijek, Beli Manastir):

Epidemiological study of stroke incidence in Baranya County

Long period of war and intensive migrations of the population during and after the war resulted in prolonged stress and greater proportion of elderly population in Baranya. The aim of this study was to give a survey of patients who were hospitalized in the Department