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Kosovka devojka – čuvena slika Uroša Predića (Orlovat, 17.12.1857 – Beograd, 11.02.1953), jednog od najvećih slikara srpskog realizma. Slika prikazuje devojku koja pomaže ranjenom junaku posle bitke na Kosovu polju, koja se odigrala na Vidovdan, 28. juna 1389. godine, između srpske i turske vojske.

Kosovo Maiden – a famous painting of Uroš Predić (Orlovat, December 7, 1857 – Belgrade, February 11, 1953), one of the greatest Serbian Realist painters. The painting shows a young girl which helps a wounded hero after the Battle of Kosovo that was fought on St Vitus' Day in 1389 (June 28 by Gregorian calendar) between the Serbian Empire and the Ottoman Empire.



U susret jubilejima

To go to jubilees

Silva Dobrić

Vojnomedicinska akademija, Institut za naučne informacije, Beograd

Nova 2009. godina obeležiće dva, za vojni sanitet, izuzetno značajna jubileja: 2. marta proslaviće se 165 godina od potpisivanja Ukaza Njegovog Knjaževskog Visočanstva Aleksandra Karađorđevića o osnivanju Centralnog vojnog špitalja, datum koji Vojnomedicinska akademija u Beogradu slavi kao svoj rođendan, dok će septembar mesec biti u znaku proslave 65. rođendana Vojnosanitetskog pregleda (VSP), časopisa lekara i farmaceuta Vojske Srbije.

Prvi broj VSP izišao je u septembru 1944. godine u Bariju, Italija, jer je u to vreme na prostorima bivše Jugoslavije još plamteo oganj Drugog svetskog rata. Od tada naovamo, časopis je, kao i naša zemlja, uostalom, imao uspone i pado-

Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) koja prati najuticajnije naučne časopise sveta, zbog čega se smatra prestižnim objaviti rad u časopisu sa tzv. SCI liste. Trend povećanog priliva radova, potencijalnih kandidata za objavljivanje u VSP, biće sigurno nastavljen i u 2009. godini, o čemu svedoči podatak da je samo u poslednjih 20 dana decembra meseca u Redakciju časopisa stiglo preko 20 novih radova.

Kao i prethodnih godina i u 2008. odbijeno je oko 30% pristiglih radova, a od onih koji su dobili pozitivnu ocenu recenzenta, u 12 brojeva objavljena su 152 rada, što sa šest prikaza knjiga i dva izveštaja sa stručnih skupova, čini ukupno 160 različitih članaka (tabela 1).

Tabela 1

Struktura radova objavljenih u VSP u 2008. godini

Kategorija rada	Broj radova	%
Uvodnici	12	7,5
Originalni članci	81	50,6
Opšti pregledi	4	2,5
Aktuelne teme	16	10,0
Seminari praktičnog lekara	5	3,1
Kazuistika	28	17,5
Istorija medicine	4	2,5
Pisma uredniku	2	1,3
Ostalo (prikazi knjiga, izveštaji sa stručnog skupa)	8	5,0
Ukupno	160	100,0

ve, ali je uspeo da održi kontinuitet izlaženja i zadovoljavajući kvantitet i kvalitet radova. Do 1975. godine VSP je povremeno izlazio sa 12 brojeva godišnje, potom redovno sa šest brojeva i sa retkim dodacima (*supplements*), a u protekle tri godine (od 2005), zbog povećanog priliva radova, ponovo je uspostavljena jednomesečna dinamika izlaženja (VSP je trenutno jedini biomedicinski časopis u Srbiji koji izlazi mesečno).

Trend porasta broja pristiglih radova u Redakciju VSP nastavljen je i u protekloj godini. Dok je u periodu 2005-2007. taj broj iznosio 225-235 radova godišnje, prošle godine već je prešao 300. Ovo je najverovatnije posledica ulaska časopisa u sistem citiranja čuvene baze naučne publicistike

Dok su u 2006.¹ i 2007. godini² na stranicama VSP dominirali radovi autora iz civilnih zdravstvenih i akademskih institucija, u 2008. godini došlo je do njihovog izjednačavanja sa brojem radova iz tzv. „vojnog sektora“ (tabela 2). Nadajmo se da će se ovaj odnos održati i ubuduće jer do sada nebrojeno puta je potvrđeno da stručnjaci iz vojnosanitetskih ustanova Srbije imaju mnogo toga da pokažu domaćoj i svetskoj stručnoj i naučnoj javnosti.

U protekloj godini nešto je opao broj radova iz inostranstva, ali očekujemo da će zahvaljujući ulasku VSP na SCI listu porasti zainteresovanost autora iz inostranstva da rezultate svojih istraživanja objave na njegovim stranicama.

Tabela 2

Podela radova objavljenih u VSP u 2008. godini prema instituciji autora rada

Institucija autora radova	Broj radova	%
Vojnomedicinska akademija (VMA)	57	35,6
Vojna bolnica Niš	12	7,5
VMA + civilne institucije	14	8,8
VMA + inostrane institucije	3	1,9
Civilne institucije u Srbiji	70	43,7
Inostrane institucije	4	2,5
Ukupno	160	100,00

Broj radova u VSP na engleskom jeziku povećava se iz godine u godinu. Tako je u 2007. godini svaki peti rad objavljen na strancima VSP bio na engleskom jeziku², a prošle godine svaki četvrti. Uredništvo VSP podržava ovakav trend jer veruje da će na taj način radovi objavljeni u časopisu biti „vidljiviji“ na međunarodnoj sceni što povećava izgleda za njihovu veću citiranost, a, time, i za bolji impakt faktor samog časopisa.

Prošle godine, posle dužeg vremena, uz redovne brojeve VSP štampan je i jedan suplement u kojem su objavljeni radovi sa naučnog skupa „Srpski vojni sanitet 1917-1918“ koji je održan na Vojnomedicinskoj akademiji 31. oktobra 2008. Skup su organizovali Vojnomedicinska akademija i Akademija medicinskih nauka Srpskog lekarskog društva povodom 90. godišnjice proboja Solunskog fronta i oslobo-

đenja Srbije u Prvom svetskom ratu. U suplementu je, kroz 13 radova, sveobuhvatno sagedana organizacija saniteta srpske vojske u završnim borbama za oslobođenje otadžbine, a mnogi podaci izneseni u ovim radovima, po prvi put su stavljeni na uvid stručnoj i široj javnosti.

U ovoj, za VSP jubilarnoj, godini Uredništvo časopisa učiniće sve da i ubuduće obezbedi objavljivanje samo visokokvalitetnih radova koji će po svim segmentima ispunjavati stroge kriterijume savremene naučne publicistike. U tome, kao i do sada, veliku pomoć očekujemo od naših recenzenta, eminentnih stručnjaka iz različitih oblasti medicine, stomatologije i farmacije, kojih je u protekloj godini bilo gotovo 140, i kojima, ovom prilikom, izražavamo veliku zahvalnost za trud koji su uložili u podizanju kvaliteta radova objavljenih u VSP.

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Botulinum toxin in the treatment of sialorrhea

Botulinski toksin u lečenju sijaloreje

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Abstract

Background/Aim. Botulinum toxin-A (BTX-A) is known to block the release of acetylcholine from motor and autonomic nerve terminals and may significantly decrease saliva production when injected intraglandularly. The aim of this study was to evaluate effects of BTX-A injections in the treatment of disabling sialorrhea in various neurological disorders. **Methods.** This study included 19 consecutive patients with significant sialorrhea associated with various neurological disorders. Out of them 13 patients were with Parkinson's disease, two with pantothenate kinase-associated neurodegeneration, two with multiple system atrophy, one with Wilson's disease, and one patient with postoperative sialorrhea. Botulinum toxin-A (Dysport®, Ipsen Pharma) was injected into the parotid glands with ($n = 7$ patients) or without ($n = 12$ patients) ultrasound guidance. All the patients were scored before and after the treatment and in weekly intervals thereafter using the salivation item of the part II (Activities of Daily Living) of the Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS). **Results.** Thirteen patients (68%) reported beneficial effect of BTX-A injection, while 6 of them (32%) had no response at all. The sialorrhea scores before and after the treatment were 3.1 ± 0.1 (range 2–4) and 1.8 ± 0.1 (range 0–3), respectively ($t = 5.636$; $p < 0.001$). There was no difference in the magnitude of response between the groups with ($t = 4.500$; $p = 0.004$) and without ($t = 3.674$; $p = 0.005$) ultrasound control of injection sites. Adverse effects were registered in 5 patients (26%). **Conclusions.** Botulinum toxin-A injections to easily accessible parotid glands, without necessity for ultrasound guidance, are safe and efficacious treatment for sialorrhea in different neurological disorders.

Key words:

sialorrhea; parkinson disease; neurodegenerative diseases; botulinum toxins.

Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Botulinski toksin A (BTX-A) blokira oslobađanje acetilholina iz motornih i autonomnih nervnih završetaka, te može znatno da umanji stvaranje pljuvačke kada se ordinira intraglandularno. Cilj ove studije bio je da se utvrde efekti primene BTX-A u lečenju sijaloreje kod raznih neuroloških poremećaja. **Metode.** Ovom studijom bilo je obuhvaćeno 19 konsekutivnih bolesnika sa značajnom sijalorejom izazvanom različitim neurološkim bolestima. Od tog broja 13 bolesnika je bilo sa Parkinsonovom bolesti, dva sa pantotenat kinaza-udruženom neurodegeneracijom, dva sa multiplom sistemskom atrofijom, jedan sa Wilson-ovom bolesti i jedan bolesnik sa postoperativnom sijalorejom. Botulinski toksin A (Dysport®, Ipsen Pharma) injektovan je u parotidne žlezde kod bolesnika sa ($n = 7$) i bez ($n = 12$) ultrazvučnog navođenja. Svi bolesnici ocenjivani su pre i posle tretmana u nedeljnim intervalima uz primenu dela UPDRS skale koji se odnosi na hipersalivaciju (*Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale – UPDRS, Part II Activity of Daily Living*). **Rezultati.** Ukupno 13 bolesnika (68%) saopštilo je povoljno dejstvo injektovanja BTX-A, dok je šest bolesnika (32%) ostalo bez ikakve reakcije. Ocene stepena sijaloreje pre i posle tretmana bile su $3,1 \pm 0,1$ (opseg 2–4) i $1,8 \pm 0,1$ (opseg 0–3), respektivno ($t = 5,636$; $p < 0,001$). Nije bilo razlike u magnitudi reakcije između grupa sa ($t = 4,500$; $p = 0,004$) i bez ($t = 3,674$; $p = 0,005$) ultrazvučnog upravljanja mestima injektovanja. Neželjeni efekti zabeleženi su kod pet bolesnika (26%). **Zaključak.** Injektiranje botulinskog toksina A u lako pristupačne parotidne žlezde, bez potrebe za ultrazvučnim navođenjem, bezbedno je i efikasno u lečenju sijaloreje kod različitih neuroloških bolesti.

Ključne reči:

sijaloreja; parkinsonova bolest; neurodegenerativne bolesti; botulinski toksini.

Introduction

Sialorrhea, defined as an overflow of saliva from the mouth (drooling), negatively affects both patient's quality of life and social interactions^{1,2}. Its etiology includes acute and chronic neurological disorders (Parkinson's disease, Wilson's disease, motor neuron disease, multiple system atrophy, pantothenate kinase-associated neurodegeneration, bulbar and pseudobulbar palsy, etc.), hypersecretion (inflammatory processes in oral cavity), adverse effects of some drugs, or anatomic abnormalities affecting oral cavity³.

Mild cases of sialorrhea may be treated pharmacologically (i.e. anticholinergics, although their use is often restricted by side effects), while more severe cases of drooling are eventually referred to surgery⁴.

Kerner⁵ noted severe dryness of mouth in patients with botulism, and was the first to suggest possibility that botulinum toxin might be used to treat sialorrhea. Botulinum toxin-A (BTX-A) blocks the release of acetylcholine from motor and autonomic nerve terminals, and, when injected intraglandularly, it may significantly decrease saliva production and can be beneficial in excessive sialorrhea⁶⁻⁸. However, a number of issues (doses, sites of injections, method of application) is still open.

The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of BTX-A injections to the parotid glands in the treatment of disabling sialorrhea in various neurological disorders.

Methods

The study comprised 19 consecutive patients with sialorrhea associated with various neurological disorders (Table 1), who were treated with BTX-A injections at the Institute of Neurology, Belgrade from January 2006 to January 2007. All the patients rated their sialorrhea with score ≥ 2 according to

the salivation item of the part II (Activities of Daily Living) of the Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS)⁹. None of them had problems with swallowing of solid food. The study was approved by the Ethical Committee of the Clinical Center of Serbia. The patients were included in the study after giving informed and written consent.

Botulinum toxin-A (Dysport®; Ipsen Pharma) was injected (final concentration 10U/0.1ml; 1 ml syringe using a 22-gauge needle penetrating to a depth of 1 cm) into preauricular portion of parotid glands, behind the angle of the ascending mandibular rami, and then into the inferoposterior portion of the parotid gland lying just before the mastoid processes. In order to avoid chewing difficulties, injections were applied after clinical detection of the masseter muscle (palpation). Botulinum toxin-A was applied with and without ultrasound guidance in 7 and 12 patients, respectively. All the patients were scored before and after the treatment, using the UPDRS salivation item and clinically followed in weekly intervals (0 = normal; 1 = slight but definite excess of saliva in mouth, may have night-time drooling; 2 = moderately excessive saliva, may have minimal drooling; 3 = marked excess of saliva with some drooling; 4 = marked drooling, requires constant tissue or handkerchief)

Results

Six patients (32%) did not respond at all, while 13 patients (68%) reported beneficial effect of BTX-A injection (change in drooling score ≥ 1 point). The sialorrhea scores before and after the treatment were 3.1 ± 0.1 (range 2-4) and 1.8 ± 0.1 (range 0-3), respectively ($t = 5.636$; $p < 0.001$). There was no difference in the magnitude of response between the groups with ($t = 4.500$; $p = 0.004$) and without ($t = 3.674$; $p = 0.005$) ultrasound control of injection sites (Table 2).

Table 1
Clinical and demographic characteristics of patients with sialorrhea

Number of patients	19
Male to female ratio	14:5
Age (years); ($\bar{x} \pm SD$)	62 ± 17 (24-77)
Diagnosis of patients with sialorrhea	
Parkinson's disease (n)	13
Pantothenate kinase-associated neurodegeneration (n)	2
Multiple system atrophy (n)	2
Wilson's disease (n)	1
Post-operative sialorrhea (endarterectomy) (n)	1

Table 2
Response to botulinum toxin A (BTX-A) injections in parotid glands in patients with sialorrhea

Patients	Responders : non-responders		p
	Before the treatment	After the treatment	
All patients (n = 19)	–	13 : 6	
With ultrasound control (n = 7)	–	5 : 2	
Without ultrasound control (n = 12)	–	8 : 4	
Scores on UPDRS ADL drooling item			
All patients (n = 19)*	3.1 ± 0.1 (2-4)	1.8 ± 0.1 (0-3)	< 0.001
With ultrasound control (n = 7)*	2.9 ± 0.9 (2-4)	1.6 ± 0.9 (0-3)	0.004
Without ultrasound control (n = 12)*	3.2 ± 0.4 (3-4)	2.0 ± 0.8 (0-3)	0.005

UPDRS ADL – Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale Activities of Daily Living; *values present means \pm SDs with ranges in parentheses.

The mean dose of BTX-A per session was 104 ± 28 U (range: 64–140 U). In 13 patients who had beneficial response, it lasted approximately 3 months (2.9 ± 1.1 months; range 1–5 months). The time of the appearance of clinically relevant response was 7.9 ± 5.5 days (range 1–21 days).

Adverse effects were registered in 5 patients (26%) with dry mouth and mild swallowing difficulties being the most frequent.

Discussion

Although we did not use a very sensitive scale, we found beneficial effect of BTX-A injections on sialorrhea in approximately two thirds of the patients (68%), which is in accordance with the estimates of 69%–90% of responders in the previous studies^{10–12}. Lim et al.³ analyzed studies that included > 16 patients and identified 4 controlled studies, three of them being double blind, and only two of them randomized^{6–8,10}. Two studies reported significant improvement of drooling after BTX-A injections, one study found significant improvement in physical appearance and ease of caring for subjects, and one found no improvement in either frequency or severity of drooling^{6,8,12,13}. Lagalla et al.¹⁴ described good response in 88% of BTX-A treated patients in comparison with 31% of those receiving placebo. Time to beneficial effect (between one and 21 days) and mean duration of the effect in our study (2.9 months) were similar as in other studies^{11,15}.

Some authors suggested that therapeutic success might be achieved by injecting only submandibular glands, while other authors preferred combined administration to submandibular and parotid glands^{8,10,12}. However, no study compared efficacy when different targets were injected. In our study we exclusively injected BTX-A to easily approached parotid glands in order to preserve adequate submandibular production of saliva which was necessary for dental caries prevention¹⁶.

Lipp et al.⁶ conducted double-blind, placebo controlled study on the efficacy of 3 different doses of BTX-A (Botox®; Allergan) and recommended a dose of 75 U, which proved to be more efficacious than the smaller doses (37.5 U and 18.75 U). Lagalla et al.¹⁴ administered 50 U of Botox® in every pa-

rotid gland, similar to Ellies et al.¹⁶ The doses of Dysport® we used per session (104 U) were comparatively lower. It has been suggested that the usage of higher doses might result in better and longer-lasting response, but methodological differences between studies (including differences in injection sites) made it impossible to recommend the optimal mode of BTX-A application for sialorrhea with certainty⁶.

The response in the patients who were injected with ultrasound guidance and those who were not sonographically guided was not different in our study, which contrasted Shetty et al.¹⁷ who were giving low doses of Botox® (15 U) in each submandibular gland and recommended application only under ultrasound guidance. This difference may reflect an easiness to access the parotid glands.

Different studies used different subjective (visual analogue scales, quality of life questionnaires) and objective measures (salivatory gland scintigraphy, weight change of dental rolls after 5 minutes discontinuation of swallowing) that were used to assess BTX-A efficacy in sialorrhea^{6,8,14}. However, Lipp et al.⁶ reported discrepancy between the objective decrease of saliva production or reduction of drooling and changes in the quality of life measures. Therefore, in this study we decided to use the simple salivation item of the UPDRS part II (Activities of Daily Living).

The main limitation of our study was its open-labelled design. However, we believe that our results are still valuable considering: a rather large number of patients with different neurological disorders associated with sialorrhea; response achieved by injecting only parotid glands, data suggesting no necessity for ultrasound guidance in such approach.

Conclusion

According to the results obtained, we suggest that BTX-A injections to easily accessible parotid glands are safe and efficacious treatment for sialorrhea in different neurological disorders.

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Predicting violence in veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder

Predviđanje nasilnog ponašanja veterana sa posttraumatskim stresnim poremećajem

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Abstract

Background/Aim. Frequent expression of negative affects, hostility and violent behavior in individuals suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) were recognized long ago, and have been retrospectively well documented in war veterans with PTSD who were shown to have an elevated risk for violent behavior when compared to both veterans without PTSD and other psychiatric patients. The aim of this study was to evaluate the accuracy of clinical prediction of violence in combat veterans suffering from PTSD. **Methods.** The subjects of this study, 104 male combat veterans with PTSD were assessed with the Historical, Clinical and Risk Management 20 (HCR-20), a 20-item clinician-rated instrument for assessing the risks for violence, and their acts of violence during one-year follow-up period were registered based on bimonthly check-up interviews. **Results.** Our findings showed that the HCR-20, as an actuarial measure, had good internal consistency reliability ($\alpha = 0.82$), excellent interrater reliability (Interclass Correlation ICC = 0.85), as well as excellent predictive validity for acts of any violence, non-physical violence or physical violence in the follow-up period (AUC = 0.82–0.86). The HCR-20 also had good interrater reliability (Cohen's kappa = 0.74), and acceptable predictive accuracy for each outcome criterion (AUC = 0.73–0.79). **Conclusion.** The results of this research confirm that the HCR-20 may also be applied in prediction of violent behavior in the population of patients suffering from PTSD with reliability and validity comparable with the results of previous studies where this instrument was administered to other populations of psychiatric patients.

Key words:
stress disorders, post-traumatic; risk assessment;
veterans; predictive value of tests; aggression.

Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Često ispoljavanje negativnog afekta, neprijateljskog i nasilnog ponašanja kod osoba sa posttraumatskim stresnim poremećajem (PTSP) odavno je uočeno i posebno dobro dokumentovano kod ratnih veterana kod kojih je uočen povišen rizik od nasilnog ponašanja u odnosu na veterane bez PTSP i druge psihijatrijske bolesnike. Cilj ove studije bio je da se izvrši klinička procena rizika od nasilnog ponašanja kod učesnika rata sa PTSP. **Metode.** Ispitanici ove studije, 104 veterana muškog pola sa PTSP procenjavani su instrumentom strukturisane kliničke procene rizika od nasilnog ponašanja *Historical, Clinical and Risk Management 20* (HCR-20), a ispoljavanje nasilnog ponašanja praćeno je tokom jednogodišnjeg perioda, u okviru kontrolnih pregleda na svaka dva meseca. **Rezultati.** Sa stanovišta aktuarialne procene, HCR-20 je imao dobru internu konzistenciju ($\alpha = 0,82$), odličnu saglasnost između ispitivača (ICC = 0,85), kao i odličnu prediktivnu vrednost u pogledu ispoljavanja nasilnog ponašanja (fizičko ili nefizičko nasilje) u toku jednogodišnjeg perioda praćenja (AUC = 0,82–0,86), što je u skladu sa psihometrijskim svojstvima ustanovljenim u drugim studijama. Sa stanovišta strukturisane kliničke procene rizika (nizak, srednji ili visok), saglasnost među ispitivačima u pogledu HCR-20 bila je dobra (Kohenev kapa koeficijent = 0,74), a prediktivna tačnost prihvatljiva (AUC = 0,73–0,79). **Zaključak.** Rezultati istraživanja potvrđuju da se HCR-20 može koristiti za predviđanje nasilnog ponašanja kod populacije obolelih od PTSP sa pouzdanošću i vrednošću koju je imao u ranijim studijama, kada je primenjivan na drugim populacijama psihijatrijskih bolesnika.

Ključne reči:
stresni poremećaji, posttraumatski; rizik, procena;
veterani, ratni; testovi, prognostička vrednost; agresivnost.

Introduction

Though clinicians have traditionally assessed violence risk on an individual basis, using unstructured or unaided clinical judgment (which has frequently been criticized for

being impressionistic and subjective), the prediction of violence has substantially improved over the last decades thanks to the development of various systematic violence risk assessment schemes such as the Dangerous Behavior Rating Scale (DBRS), the Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL-R),

the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide, the Historical, Clinical and Risk Management 20 (HCR-20), and the Classification of Violence Risk (COVR)¹⁻⁶. These divergent approaches have resulted in different views to the relative contribution of clinical items in risk prediction scales as well as in debate over the merits of clinical vs. actuarial approaches and their relevance to risk prediction⁷.

The actuarial prediction procedure has been described as a formal or algorithmic method that uses an equation, a formula, or an actuarial table to arrive at a probability, or expected value, of some outcome⁸. While this approach has generally improved the reliability and validity of risk assessment, its clinical application has certain limitations because it tends to ignore individual variations in risk, overfocuses on relatively static (demographic) variables (in large, frequently heterogeneous populations), fails to consider clinically relevant variables and minimizes the importance of clinical assessment⁹. On the other hand, a model of decision making called the "structured professional judgment model" or "structured clinical judgment model" of risk assessment has emerged in recent years and has produced a number of assessment schemas well as comprehensive reviews¹⁰⁻¹⁵. This model is based on empirical knowledge and clinical expertise, and defines the levels of risk for violence such as risk judgments of low, moderate, and high risk after a systematic consideration of a standard set of operationally defined risk factors.

A significant step in bridging the gap between clinical and actuarial measures was the development of the HCR-20, which adopted a combined approach and recognized the importance of both static actuarial variables and the clinical/risk management items that clinicians normally take into account in risk assessments of individuals. The studies of reliability and validity of the HCR-20 have covered large samples of forensic psychiatric patients, involuntarily hospitalized civil psychiatric patients, correctional settings, and mixed samples of correctional offenders and forensic patients¹⁶⁻²⁶. Hence, the important issue of extending practical application of the HCR-20 to the domain of other psychiatry populations, such as voluntarily hospitalized patients or outpatients where clinical picture may also present with affect dysregulation and hostility, still requires further research²⁷.

Affect dysregulation is possibly the most far-reaching effect of psychological trauma underlying significant impairment in the regulation of anger, anxiety and sexual impulses of people with severe psychotraumata^{28, 29}. Frequent expression of negative affects, hostility and violent behavior in individuals suffering from posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) were recognized long ago, and have been retrospectively well documented in war veterans, who were shown to have an elevated risk for violent behavior when compared to both veterans without PTSD and other psychiatric patients³⁰⁻³⁹. Given that a prospective research on predicting violent behavior in PTSD survivors with a systematic violence risk assessment scheme is undoubtedly relevant yet under-researched topic, the primary objective of our study was to assess the accuracy of violence prediction based on the HCR-20 in a treatment seeking sample of veterans suffering

from PTSD, a population which has not yet been specifically examined with this instrument.

Methods

The sample consisted of 104 male veterans engaged previously in reserve forces of the former Yugoslav Army during armed conflicts in ex-Yugoslavia (after 1990). The subjects of this study were consecutively recruited at the Institute of Psychiatry and Institute of Mental Health, Belgrade in the period 1998 – 2002 among outpatients who were suffering from combat-related chronic PTSD and willing to participate in the study. The subjects were diagnosed according to the Structured Clinical Interview for Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV) Axis I Disorders (SCID-I)⁴⁰, and the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV Axis II Personality Disorders (SCID-II)⁴¹. Written informed consent was obtained from all the subjects, and the results obtained were kept confidential.

All the subjects were assessed with the HCR-20, a 20-item clinician-rated instrument for assessing the risks for violence. The HCR-20 was developed from a detailed consideration of the previous studies concerning factors related to violence. It contains 20 items, each scored "0" (*no/absent*), "1" (*partially/possibly present*), or "2" (*yes/definitely present*) and divided into three subscales - Historical, Clinical and Risk Management. The ten Historical items (*Previous Violence, Young Age at First Violent Incident, Relationship Instability, Substance Use Problems, Major Mental Illness, Psychopathy, Early Maladjustment, Personality Disorder, Prior Supervision Failure*) correspond to risk factors for violence in the past. The five Clinical items (*Lack of Insight, Negative Attitudes, Active Symptoms of Major Mental Illness, Impulsivity, Unresponsive to Treatment*) reflect current correlates of violence. The five Risk Management items (*Plans Lack Feasibility, Exposure to Destabilizers, Lack of Personal Support, Noncompliance with Remediation Attempts, and Stress*) focus attention on situational factors that may influence risk for violence in the future. For each of the items the HCR-20 manual provides both a precise definition and detailed information on scoring procedure based on a semistructured interview. For research purposes, it is possible to use the HCR-20 as an actuarial scale and simply sum the numeric item codes to obtain total and subscale scores. For clinical purposes, the authors of the HCR-20 recommend that assessors make a "final risk judgment", i.e. final decision regarding risk for violence using a 3-point scale. Here, "low" indicates that the assessor believe that individual is at no risk, or very low risk, for violence; "moderate" indicates that the assessor believes the individual is at somewhat elevated risk for violence; and "high" indicates that the assessor believes the individual is at high or very elevated risk for violence.

The Screening Version of the Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised (PCL:SV), a 12-item symptom-construct rating scale based on a semistructured interview, was also completed for all the subjects in order to code the seventh item on the Historical subscale of the HCR-20 which refers

to psychopathy⁴². The PCL: SV is divided into two parts (each comprising of six items and each scored using a 3-point ordinal scale). One section of the PCL: SV deals with affective/interpersonal symptoms of psychopathy and the other with social deviance symptoms.

For the purpose of this study, two raters, specialists in neuropsychiatry completed research protocols for 104 subjects containing anamnestic data, psychiatric diagnoses, and the assessment with the HCR-20 and the PCL: SV. Each rater completed 78 protocols randomly assigned with an overlap of 50% to permit interrater reliability analyses for the HCR-20 and PCL: SV. Acts of violence during one-year follow-up period were recorded based on bimonthly check-up interviews lasting 30-45 minutes (supplemented by clinical records from treating psychiatrists and when available by information from close persons, social workers and judicial files) made by assessors who were not informed about the results for the HCR-20 risk assessments. Violent acts in this study were defined as deliberate and nonconsensual acts of actual, attempted or threatened harm to other persons, and regardless of severity divided into categories of any violence, physical violence and non-physical violence, which is consistent with the approaches used in other risk assessment studies.

Reliability analyses of the HCR-20 and PCL:SV comprised the evaluation of internal consistency reliability and interrater reliability. In order to investigate the relationship between HCR-20 scores and violence, three different analyses are reported: (a) Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) analyses for all subscales and the total scale, (b) cross tabs for the HCR-20 "final risk judgment" (low/moderate/high) and (c) results of a logistic regression analysis with all the items of the HCR-20 as predictor variables. With respect to the HCR-20 and PCL: SV as actuarial measures, a reliability analysis comprised the evaluation of internal con-

sistency reliability in terms of Cronbach Alpha and interrater reliability in terms of Intraclass Correlation (ICC)^{43,44}. A one-way random-effects model of the ICC was used for both the reliability of single-rater ratings (ICC1) and averaged ratings (ICC2).

Results

The mean age of the subjects was 35 years (SD = 10.2). They were mostly married, having children, completed secondary education, employed and possessed fire-arms which is shown in Table 1.

Anamnestic data on the subjects and psychiatric comorbidity where substance use disorder was the most frequent (30%) comorbid diagnosis are shown in Table 2.

Seventy (67%) subjects committed at least one violent act in the one-year follow-up period while 63 (61%) committed non-physical violence in a sense of threatening or fear-inducing behaviour, 58 (56%) perpetrated physical violence, and nine (8%) were charged with violent criminal offences. Among the subjects who possessed firearms, 25 (24%) manifested dangerous firearm-related behaviour (threatening with a gun) in the follow-up period.

The Table 3 presents the central tendencies, dispersions, internal consistency reliability and interrater reliability of the HCR-20 (and its respective subscales) and the PCL: SV.

Receiver Operating Characteristic Analysis was conducted to evaluate the accuracy of sum of raw scores on the HCR-20 and its subscales as well as the PCL: SV in predicting the three violence categories, i.e. any violence, non-physical violence, and physical violence (Table 4). Receiver Operating Characteristic analysis is independent of the criterion base rate and is graphically presented with an "area under curve" (AUC) produced by plotting sensitivity and specificity pairs for each possible cut-off score on a measure.

Table 1
Sociodemographic data of the subjects

Characteristics	Subjects	
	n	(%)
Married	74	71
Number with children	53	51
Secondary educated	69	66
Employed	80	77
Possession of firearms	64	61

Table 2
Anamnestic data and psychiatric comorbidity of the subjects

Characteristics	Subjects	
	n	(%)
Mental disorders in the family	26	25
Juvenile criminal record	2	2
Past violent charge	7	7
Past violent conviction	5	5
Adult psychiatric treatment before PTSD*	15	14
Previous inpatient treatment	43	41
Substance use disorder	31	30
Mood disorder	9	9
Organic disorder	8	7
Personality disorder	17	16

*Posttraumatic stress disorder

Table 3
Descriptive characteristics, internal consistency reliability and interrater reliability of the History, Clinical, and Risk Management 20 (HCR-20) and the Screening Version of the Hare Psychopathy Check list (PCL: SV)

Measure (range)	Mean	Standard error	Standard deviation	Alpha	ICC ₁ [†] (CI) [‡]	ICC ₂ [§] (CI)
HCR-20 total score (0-40)	11.33	0.56	5.72	0.82	0.95 (0.92–0.97)	0.97 (0.96–0.98)
Historical subscale (0-20)	3.71	0.33	3.38	0.82	0.96 (0.93–0.98)	0.98 (0.96–0.99)
Clinical subscale (0-10)	4.89	0.16	1.60	0.53	0.75 (0.60–0.85)	0.85 (0.75–0.92)
Risk Management subscale (0-10)	2.72	0.20	2.05	0.50	0.88 (0.80–0.93)	0.93 (0.89–0.96)
PCL:SV total score (0-24)	6.60	0.55	5.65	0.88	0.88 (0.81–0.93)	0.94 (0.89–0.96)

* Cronbach Alpha coefficient of internal consistency reliability (for 104 subjects); [†]single-measure intraclass correlation coefficient (for 52 overlapping subjects); [‡]95% confidence interval; [§]average-measure intraclass correlation coefficient (for 52 overlapping subjects)

Table 4
Area under the receiver operating characteristic curves (AUC) for the History, Clinical and Risk Management 20 (HCR-20) and The Screening Version of the Hare Psychopathy Checklist (PCL:SV) in 104 veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder

Measure	Any violence*			Non-physical violence [†]			Physical violence [‡]		
	Mean	SE [§]	CI	Mean	SE	CI	Mean	SE	CI
HCR-20 total score (0–40)	0.85	0.04	0.78–0.92	0.82	0.04	0.74–0.90	0.86	0.04	0.79–0.93
Historical subscale (0–20)	0.83	0.04	0.75–0.90	0.81	0.04	0.72–0.89	0.86	0.04	0.79–0.93
Clinical subscale (0–10)	0.70	0.05	0.60–0.80	0.70	0.05	0.60–0.80	0.73	0.05	0.63–0.82
Risk Management subscale (0–10)	0.71	0.05	0.61–0.81	0.69	0.05	0.58–0.78	0.69	0.05	0.59–0.79
PCL: SV	0.82	0.04	0.74–0.90	0.80	0.04	0.71–0.88	0.87	0.03	0.81–0.94

*The HCR-20 optimal cut-off score of ≥ 10 corresponds to 0.73 specificity, 0.82 sensitivity and 0.75 hit rate;

[†]The HCR-20 optimal cut-off score of ≥ 10 corresponds to 0.75 specificity, 0.76 sensitivity and 0.75 hit rate;

[‡]The HCR-20 optimal cut-off score of ≥ 10 corresponds to 0.83 specificity, 0.80 sensitivity and 0.82 hit rate;

[§] Standard error;

^{||} 95% Confidence interval.

Subsequently, if the AUC is significantly different from 0.50, it represents an improvement over chance in the prediction of a given outcome. Theoretical value of the AUC could range from zero to one, and for the propensity scores for any reasonable predictive model or diagnostic test, the AUC does not assume values below 0.5. In general: 1) $0.5 < \text{AUC} < 0.7$ suggests poor discrimination; 2) $0.7 < \text{AUC} < 0.8$ suggests an acceptable discrimination; 3) $0.8 < \text{AUC} < 0.9$ suggests an excellent discrimination, and 4) $\text{AUC} > 0.9$ suggests outstanding discrimination. According to our research findings, AUC values were statistically significant for each outcome criterion (any violence, non-physical violence or physical violence) and ranged from 0.69 to 0.86, as shown in Table 4. The diagnostic efficiency of the HCR-20 total score in terms of specificity (probability of correctly predicting a case as violent), sensibility (probability of correctly identifying a case as not violent) and hit rate (probability of accurate prediction) across the three categories of violence are presented in Table 4.

Another approach to violence risk assessment in this study was based on a structured clinical judgment model. In

that sense, the raters reviewed all relevant clinical data to determine the presence of specific risk factors as operationalized in the HCR-20 risk assessment manual. Overall judgments of risks were low, moderate, or high, according to raters' estimates of the likelihood of violent behavior. Agreement between raters for the violence risk judgments on the HCR-20 is summarized in Table 5. The two raters agreed in 46 (88%) of the 52 overlapping patients, and there were no low/high-risk errors. Cohen's kappa was 0.78 (Asymp. Std. Error = 0.10, $p = 0.00$) and Chance-corrected agreement (Intraclass Correlation, ICC1, or weighted kappa) was 0.88, ($p = 0.00$, 95% confidence interval = 0.78–0.93).

The frequencies and proportions of each type of violence across the HCR-20 Final Risk Judgment levels (low, moderate, and high risk) are shown in Table 6. According to ROC analysis, the AUC values for the HCR-20 Final Risk Judgment were statistically significant for each outcome criterion (any violence, non-physical violence or physical violence) and varied between 0.73 and 0.79, as can be seen in Table 6.

Table 5
Agreement between two rates for structured final violence risk judgements on the History, Clinical and Risk Management in 52 subjects

Rater A	Rater B			Total _A
	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk	
Low Risk	18	3	0	21
Moderate Risk	1	14	1	16
High Risk	0	4	11	15
Total _B	19	21	12	52

Table 6
Committed violence across levels of structured clinical risk judgments for 104 subjects based on the History Clinical and Risk Management 20 (HCR-20)

HCR-20 Final Risk Judgment		Any violence*			Non-physical violence†			Physical violence‡		
		No	Yes	Total	No	Yes	Total	No	Yes	Total
Low Risk	Count	26	18	44	27	17	44	31	13	44
	%	59	41	100	61	39	100	59	41	100
Moderate Risk	Count	7	26	33	11	22	33	11	22	33
	%	21	79	100	33	67	100	21	79	100
High Risk	Count	1	26	27	3	24	27	4	23	27
	%	4	96	100	11	89	100	15	85	100

*Receiver Operating Characteristic analysis for the HCR-20 Final Risk Judgment: area under curve = 0.79; 95% confidence interval = 0.70 – 0.88

† Receiver Operating Characteristic analysis for the HCR-20 Final Risk Judgment: area under curve = 0.73; 95% confidence interval = 0.64 – 0.83

‡ Receiver Operating Characteristic analysis for the HCR-20 Final Risk Judgment: area under curve = 0.76; 95% confidence interval = 0.66 – 0.85

For each of the three categories of violence (dependent variable) a logistic regression analysis (Table 7) was performed for identifying the HCR-20 items (independent variables), which proved significant predictors of violence. In logistic regression we estimated probability (Prob) of an event occurring which can be written as $Prob = 1/(1+e^{-z})$, where Z equals $B_0 + B_1X_1 + B_2X_2 + \dots + B_nX_n$. B_{0-n} are logistic coefficients estimated from the data. X_{1-n} are independent variables, and e is the base of the natural logarithms (approximately 2.72). If the estimated probability of the event was greater than 0.5, we predicted that the event will occur, and if the probability is less than 0.5 that the event will not occur. One way to assess how our model fits is to compare our predictions to the observed outcomes. In that respect, for any violence the model correctly predicted 80% of cases. For non-physical violence it was 81% and for physical violence 80%. As can be seen from Table 7 (values of logistic coefficient B and ExpB), the first item (Previous Violence) on the HCR-20 was the one which was the most strongly associated with each of the three categories of violence.

Discussion

Our findings regarding the internal consistency reliability, interrater reliability and predictive validity of the HCR-20, as an actuarial measure for predicting violence among veterans suffering from PTSD, indicate solid psychometric properties of this instrument which are comparable to the results of previous studies where this instrument was administered to populations of psychiatric patients such as forensic psychiatric patients discharged from security units, involuntarily hospitalized civil psychiatric patients, correctional offenders and mixed samples of correctional offenders and forensic patients mainly suffering from psychotic disorders, substance use disorders and personality disorders. The Cronbach Alpha, ICC and AUC for the HCR-20 subscales have shown that the H subscale proved far better than Clinical and Risk Management subscales, which is in accordance with other findings showing that previous history of violence is the best single predictor of future violence. Though the ICC₂ was used to show the potential reliability of averaged ratings,

Table 7
Parameter estimates in logistic regression analyses (at the final step) for identifying the History, Clinical and Risk Management (HCR-20) items those proved significant predictors of violence in 104 male veterans

<i>Variables in the equation for any violence</i>	B*	SE†	Wald‡	df§	p	Exp(B)¶
Lack of personal support the third item on the Risk Management subscale R of the HCR-20	0.871	0.361	5.816	1	0.016	2.389
Previous violence the first item on the Historical/subscale of the HCR-20 (H1)	3.654	1.097	11.103	1	0.001	38.642
Stress (fifth item on the R)	0.954	0.400	5.686	1	0.017	2.597
Constant	-1.331	0.482	7.608	1	0.006	0.264
<i>Variables in the equation for nonphysical violence</i>	B*	SE†	Wald‡	df§	p	Exp(B)¶
Lock of personal support (third item on the R)	0.984	0.349	7.943	1	0.005	2.676
Previous violence (H1)	2.557	0.644	15.769	1	0.000	12.898
Unresponsive to treatment (fifth item on the Clinical subscale of the HCR-20)	0.780	0.381	4.198	1	0.040	2.182
Constant	-1.249	0.386	10.447	1	0.001	0.287
<i>Variables in the equation for physical violence</i>	B*	SE†	Wald‡	df§	p	Exp(B)¶
Lack of insight (the first item on the Clinical subscale of the HCR-20)	1.348	0.467	8.348	1	0.004	3.851
Previous violence (H1)	2.342	0.628	13.923	1	0.000	10.398
Stress (fifth item on the R)	0.865	0.395	4.788	1	0.029	2.374
Constant	-2.102	0.557	14.223	1	0.000	0.122

*logistic coefficient; †standard error of B; ‡Wald statistics; §degree of freedom; ||significance of B; ¶the change in odds of a violence occurring associated with one-unit change in the independent variable.

the ICC₁ was considered the primary index of reliability for two reasons. Firstly, all findings on the HCR-20 (apart from those regarding interrater reliability) reported here are exclusively based on ratings made by a single rater. Secondly, the application of the HCR-20 in clinical settings will most likely only use single raters and not the average score from several independent raters. Therefore, only the single-rater ICC appears relevant for this measure at all and the naturally higher averaged ratings ICC might be misleading.

The most important type of information needed to evaluate the predictive efficiency of the HCR-20 as an actuarial measure was about its sensitivity, specificity and overall hit rate. However, a consideration of these results led us to a less optimistic evaluation of the measure. Here, only for physical violence it was possible to specify a cutoff score (Table 3) that would maintain every aspect of predictive efficiency above 0.8.

The AUC values in the scope of this study simply show probability that a violent person will receive a higher score on the predictor variable (HCR-20, PCL: SV) than a non-violent person. Here, it may be useful to include information about discrimination levels for the AUC^{45,46}.

With regard to the structured clinical judgment model, both the agreement of raters for final risk judgments and the predictive validity of the HCR-20 for each of the three types of violence proved to be acceptable. Though the results for the final risk judgment reported in Table 5 indicate that the measure has acceptable predictive accuracy (AUC ranged from 0.73 to 0.79) and a high specificity (i.e. a large majority of individuals categorized as "high risk" showed violent events in the future), the sensitivity appears to be poor (i.e. 41% of the subjects classified as "low risk" committed any violence in the follow-up interval). This unfavorable feature of the instrument obviously needs to be improved, which may be accomplished with a structured interview that could lead to a more reliable formulation of final risk judgment levels.

Although psychopathy is a vital component of any violence risk assessment, it is considered to occur less frequently out of correctional or forensic psychiatric settings. Actually, we did not focus attention on psychopathy as a violence predictor, and PCL: SV was not considered a risk assessment measure but rather a screening test for the diagnosis of psychopathy as one of the violence risk factors assessed with the HCR-20. Still, psychopathy, as measured by the he PCL: SV total score was found to have the predictive validity that could be compare with that of the HCR-20 total score. This might suggest a possible direction for future research with a more comprehensive assessment instrument such as PCL-R.

The final goal of accurate and reliable assessment of risk factors is to establish the best interventions likely to ameliorate the risk of violent behaviour and its negative consequences⁴⁷. As Monahan et al.⁶ emphasised, "for a successful management of violence multiple targets for intervention would exist, and they will differ from person to person". In this respect, our findings concerning relative contribution of specific factors in assessing violence risk in veterans with

PTSD have several clinical implications. As expected, "Previous Violence" (the first of Historical factors) was the most strongly associated with each of the three categories of violence detected in the veterans with PTSD in the follow-up period. Rather than causal, this factor is referred to as a violence risk marker with a strong predictive power due to a high correlation with other causal risk factors⁴⁸. The first item on Historical subscale can change in time only for the worse, i.e. when someone previously non-violent commits an act of violence or escalates it. Consequently, management decisions based on the presence of this factor need to be made only after careful consideration of the nature of previous violence and seriousness of any recidivism. Our finding of a high frequency of firearms possession (61%) and consequent firearm-related impulsive behavior (24%) in the follow-up period is in accordance with earlier studies pointing to high levels of aggression, impulsive weapon use, and weapon availability as significant factors in gun-related violence in veterans with PTSD. The possession of firearms in our subjects was six times higher than in adult population in Serbia where, according to official information of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, firearms are in legal possessions of 11% of adult citizens. On the other hand, according to the recent findings of Fontana and Rosenheck⁴⁹, veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars when compared with veterans who served in the Persian Gulf war and in the Vietnam war manifested significantly more violent behavior which implies a substantial need for violence risk assessment in developing treatment interventions that focus on the preservation of social assets in veterans of contemporary wars.

According to our findings, "Lack of Insight" (the first item on the Clinical subscale) and "Unresponsive to Treatment" fifth item on the Clinical subscale of the Clinical scale, as well as "Lack of Personal Support" (the third) and "Stress" (fifth item of the Risk Management subscale on the HCR-20), also proved to be closely related to future violent behavior in the subjects. Contrary to the Historical items, the Clinical and Risk Management items on the HCR-20 are usually referred to as dynamic violence risk factors because they not only relate to violence, but also may significantly fluctuate with time and circumstances and hence be targeted for violence reducing strategies⁵⁰.

A lack of insight generally refers to a lack of person's self-perception of being dangerous and incapacity to understand the importance of doing something about it⁵¹. Our subjects had difficulties to overcome discrepancies between military and civilian reality, which resulted in overlooking the inadequacy and dangerousness of their military skills in civilian context^{52, 53}. On several occasions, we could hear them say that aggression was "what they were taught in order to survive", that civilians were "just a collateral damage", and that "ordinary people without war experience can't understand them", or even, that others may be classified into "people and civilians". Therefore, developing insight in psychotherapy with veterans seems to be an important hence delicate clinical issue, which refers to both the therapeutic relationship and patient's motivation to develop awareness and readiness to change^{54, 55}. On the other

hand, the “Unresponsive to Treatment” deals with the extent to which an individual responds to interventions and programs and there are varieties of factors that have an effect on this multidimensional concept^{56,57}. Most of our subjects were treated with a combination of medication (mostly combination of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors antidepressants and benzodiazepines) and psychotherapy (mostly individual cognitive-behavior therapy and less frequently family therapy). We would like to stress that frequent comorbid disorders in veterans such as major depression, organic impairment, severe intoxication with substances or alcohol, or profound personality pathology interfered with psychotherapeutic and behavioral interventions. In general, once the violence risk is established, the efficiency of interventions that might ameliorate outcome should always be most seriously taken into consideration and carefully monitored.

The lack of personal support related to violence in our subjects generally reflected the absence of a reliable support system of peers and relatives. It is of particular practical importance since it has been shown that both family adaptive resources and social support network serve as strong buffers which alleviate life difficulties and, consequently, facilitate social adjustment and adaptation in persons suffering from chronic PTSD⁵⁸⁻⁶². In that respect, there was a striking discrepancy between what was necessary and what was actually provided to our subjects and their deeply troubled families. Numerous studies, have also shown that stress increases the likelihood of aggressive behavior and our findings obviously support this relationship^{28-39,63,64}. Much more difficult than helping veterans with PTSD to learn how to identify situations that would be stressful, was to help them arrange living and working environment which would include as few of these situations as possible. Namely, after they had been dismissed from the army, they found the situation to be particularly stressful at home due to numerous problems produced by an extremely turbulent transition period in a former socialist country (poverty, social conflicts, decline of social institu-

tions and health care system) as well as a criticism of war by common people. In general, the results of our study provide a strong evidence base that the HCR-20 as an actuarial measure is a reliable and valid predictor of violent behavior in veterans suffering from PTSD. However, a consideration of our results regarding predictive validity of the HCR-20, in terms of structured clinical judgment approach, led us to a less optimistic evaluation of the diagnostic utility of the instrument. Among specific risk factors involved in the HCR-20 assessment scheme, previous violence, the lack of insight, unresponsiveness to treatment, the lack of personal support and stressful environment proved to be strongly associated with violent behavior detected in the follow-up period. A strong association established between violence and the lack of insight, unresponsiveness to treatment, the lack of personal support and stressful environment was of particular practical significance for our clinical practice because it pointed at critical issues of violence management strategies to help individuals undergoing treatment for PTSD.

At least two substantial limitations of our study should be noted. Firstly, the findings presented in this paper may not be generalizable to a general or forensic population, given that the sample consisted of a male treatment-seeking veterans. Secondly, it would be also useful to establish a relationship between current symptoms of PTSD, treatment efficiency and violence at each of the assessments in the follow-up interval. These important issues were beyond the scope and design of this study and deserve to be addressed by further research.

Conclusion

The results of this research confirm that the HCR-20 may also be applied in prediction violent behavior in the population of patients suffering from PTSD with reliability and validity comparable with the results of previous studies where this instrument was administered to other populations of psychiatric patients.

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Pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field as prophylaxis of heterotopic ossification in patients with traumatic spinal cord injury

Pulsno elektromagnetno polje niskog intenziteta u prevenciji heterotopske osifikacije kod bolesnika sa traumatskim povredama kičmene moždine

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Abstract

Background/Aim. Heterotopic ossification (HO) is an important complication of head and spinal cord injuries (SCI). Pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field (PLIMF) therapy increases blood flow to an area of pain or inflammation, bringing more oxygen to that area and helps to remove toxic substances. The aim of this study was to determine the effect of PLIMF as prophylaxis of HO in patients with SCI. **Methods.** This prospective random control clinical study included 29 patients with traumatic SCI. The patients were randomly divided into experimental ($n = 14$) and control group ($n = 15$). The patients in the experimental group, besides exercise and range of motion therapy, were treated by PLIMF of the following characteristics: induction of 10 mT, frequency of 25 Hz and duration of 30 min. Pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field therapy started in the 7th week after the injury and lasted 4 weeks. The presence or absence of HO around the patients hips we checked by a plane radiography and Brookers classification. Functional capabilities and motor impairment were checked by Functional Independent Measure (FIM), Barthel index and American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) impairment class. Statistic analysis included Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, Shapiro-Wilk test, Mann Whitney Exact test, Exact Wilcoxon signed rank test and Fischer Exact test. Statistical significance was set up to $p < 0.05$. **Results.** At the end of the treatment no patient from the experimental group had HO. In the control group, five patients (33.3%) had HO. At the end of the treatment the majority of the patients from the experimental group (57.14%) moved from ASIA-A to ASIA-B class. **Conclusion.** Pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field therapy could help as prophylaxis of HO in patients with traumatic SCI.

Key words:

spinal cord, injuries; ossification, heterotopic; electromagnetic fields; physical medicine.

Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Heterotopska osifikacija (HO) glavna je komplikacija povrede glave i kičmene moždine (*spinal cord injury* – SCI). Terapija primenom pulsno elektromagnetnog polja niskog intenziteta (*pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field* – PLIMF) ubrzava protok krvi u zoni bola ili upale, dovodeći više kiseonika u tu zonu i pomažući u uklanjanju toksičnih materija. Cilj ove studije bio je da se odrede efekti primene PLIMF u prevenciji HO kod bolesnika sa SCI. **Metode.** U ovu prospektivnu randomiziranu kliničku studiju bilo je uključeno 29 bolesnika sa traumatskim SCI. Bolesnici su randomizirani u eksperimentalnu ($n = 14$) i kontrolnu ($n = 15$) grupu. Bolesnici iz eksperimentalne grupe, osim vežbi i terapije kretanjem, bili su podvrgnuti terapiji PLIMF indukcije 10 mT, frekvencije 25 Hz u trajanju od 30 min. Primena PLIMF počela je u sedmoj nedelji od povrede i trajala je četiri nedelje. Prisustvo ili odsustvo HO oko kukova bolesnika proveravano je radiografskim snimkom i Brookersovom klasifikacijom. Funkcionalne mogućnosti i oštećenje motorike proveravni su primenom *Functional Independent Measure* (FIM), *Barthel* indeks i klasom oštećenja prema *American Spinal Injury Association* (ASIA). Statistička analiza vršena je testovima *Kolmogorov-Smirnov*, *Shapiro-Wilk*, *Mann-Whitney Exact*, *Exact Wilcoxon Signed Rank* i *Fischer Exact*. Statistička značajnost bila je do vrednosti $p < 0,05$. **Rezultati.** Na kraju lečenja nijedan bolesnik iz eksperimentalne grupe nije imao HO. U kontrolnoj grupi pet bolesnika (33,3%) imalo je HO. Na kraju lečenja većina bolesnika eksperimentalne grupe (57,14%) prešla je iz klase ASIA-A u ASIA-B. **Zaključak.** Primena PLIMF pomaže u profilaksi HO kod bolesnika sa traumatskim SCI.

Ključne reči:

kičmena moždina, povrede; osifikacija, patološka; elektromagnetna polja; medicina, fizikalna.

Introduction

Heterotopic ossification (HO) is an important complication of head and spinal cord injuries (SCI). Heterotopic ossification produces metaplastic formation of new bone in connective tissues and muscles surrounding joints^{1,2}. In patients with SCI, HO is usually found in muscles below the level of injury. In adult patients with SCI, the incidence of HO is approximately from 11 to 75%¹⁻⁵. The onset of HO, regardless of its origin, ranges from 4–12 weeks. A peak occurrence is at 2 months after the head trauma, SCI or specific insult⁶. The rehabilitation process of patients with SCI is disturbed by the presence of HO. Approximately one third of SCI patients develop restricted hip motion or ankylosis, more frequently in patients with cervical than thoracic and lumbar injuries³. Because of that, they need more time for a successful rehabilitation, which is also more expensive. Fiedler et al.⁸ found that \$ 2 million were spent because of medical complications in postacute stage of the 115 persons with SCI. Medicaments, range of motion (ROM) and exercise therapy and radiation therapy are used for prophylaxis of HO formation^{2,4,5,9,10}. The treatment of HO consists of ROM and exercise, medicaments, radiation therapy and surgery^{2,4,5,9,11}.

Magnets and electromagnetic fields have been used for a long time in clinical medicine. Electromagnetic fields can be static or pulse¹². It has been estimated that \$ 500 million is spent on magnetic devices annually in the United States and Canada¹³. Several brands of static magnets are currently available on the market: such as magnetic necklaces or magnetic insoles^{13,14}. A dosage of static magnets implies the strength of magnetic fields and length of the magnetic procedure. Electromagnetic fields therapy mostly means pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field (PLIMF) therapy^{12,15}. A dosage of PLIMF implies induction around the inductor, frequency of the field, length of the procedure and number of the procedures. Magnets appear to increase blood flow to an area of pain or inflammation, bringing more oxygen to the area and removing toxic substances. Magnets seem to affect positive and negative charges of sodium and potassium ions within the membranes around blood vessels and nerves and to relax small smooth muscle valves in the capillaries¹⁶. The results of the experimental investigations demonstrate possibilities of PLIMF in the treatment of damaged parts of the spinal cord¹⁷.

There are different opinions in the review literature about HO in patients with SCI. Beside the fact that in the classic rehabilitation textbooks HO is discussed as an important complication of SCI, this complication was not reported in some professional reports^{4,11,18-20}. In the large data review from the American National SCI Center, in patients who had injuries between 1973 and 1998, McKinley et al.²¹ did not find HO as long-term medical complication. Many authors consider a radiation therapy as indivisible part of HO prophylaxis^{4,5,9-11}. McKinley et al.²¹, however, explicitly claim that only biphosphonates may prevent tissue ossification. The role of physical therapy in the treatment of patients after SCI is still controversial. Functional electrical stimulation (FES) is used for motor skill improvement in a late stage of rehabilitation¹⁸. Triceps surae electrical stimulation re-

duces spasticity in the patients after SCI²². Exercise is the first line in prophylaxis or treatment of HO. Unfortunately exercise has little or no direct effect on blood volume or hemoglobin content²³. Investigators believe that ROM activity provided by physical therapy and occupational therapy can minimize the risk of joint ankylosis without promoting HO^{4,6,11}. On the other hand, there are authors who have experimentally established that forcible manipulation induced heterotopic bone formation⁵. Serial casting and dynamic splinting are used to maintain joint motion in the presence of HO²⁴. There is no evidence about efficiency of these treatments. Miller et al.²⁵ speak about good treatment effect of iontophoresis with dexamethasone in patients with myositis ossificans. In the available literature we have not found anything about the use and efficiency of magnetic fields in the prophylaxis of HO. Etiology of HO is not yet known. Decreased blood flow and changes in pH may be important¹. Taking into consideration a well proved influence of magnetic fields on blood flow, circulation and inflammation, we presume that magnetic fields could be useful in prophylaxis of HO^{12,15-17,26,27}. The aim of this study was to determine the effect of PLIMF as prophylaxis of HO in patients with traumatic SCI.

Methods

We performed a prospective random control clinical study. The patients were recruited from the Neurosurgery Clinic and Clinic for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Military Medical Academy, Belgrade. To be eligible, they had to be between 18 and 45 years of age, have completeness or incompleteness traumatic SCI, have no HO in 2 months after SCI, have no other prominent complications in acute stage of rehabilitation, were not taking medications which influence HO, have no any contraindications for the treatment by the PLIMF^{5,12}. Patients were excluded if they had pressure ulcer or severe spasticity because of these conditions are positively related to the formation of HO⁴.

The study protocol consisted of determining demographic characteristics of patients, some biochemistry parameters (erythrocyte sedimentation rate – ESR, serum calcium – Ca, serum alkaline phosphatase – ALP), functional capabilities of patients defined by the Functional Independent Measure (FIM) and the Barthel index, neurological deficit defined by the American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA), and presence or absence of HO around patients hips toward Brookers classification^{2,5,7,28}. The study protocol was approved by the local ethic committee. All the patients gave the written consent before participating in the study.

The patients who met inclusion criteria were randomly divided into the experimental and control group. They started with ROM and exercise therapy in both groups as soon as they achieved their vital steady state. The patients in the experimental group, besides ROM and exercise therapy, were treated by PLIMF. This treatment started on the average in seventh week after the injury. The treatment by PLIMF lasted four weeks and was performed by the use of an apparatus “Magnemed MT-91, Electromedicina Nis”. This apparatus is solenoid, so a patient can comfortably lie

(Figure 1). A dosage of PLIMF implied: induction of 10 mT (miliTesla), frequency of 25 Hz and duration of 30 min. We performed this therapy five times a week. We checked the presence and grade or absence of HO at the start and the end of the treatment. The plain radiographies were read by the same radiologist. Functional capabilities of the patients were checked by the same physiotherapist at the start and the end of the treatment.

domized. One patient from the experimental group was withdrawn because of the lack of protocol compliance. A total of 29 patients participated in the study. The groups were homogeneous in terms of age and sex of the patients. The majority of the patients in the experimental group (50%) had cervical level of SCI; the majority of the patients in the control group (53.3%) had thoracic level of SCI (Table 1).



Fig. 1 – A patient during the treatment with pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field (PLIMF) (“Magnemed MT-91, Electromedicina Nis”)

Table 1

Characteristics of the patients			
Patients characteristics	Experimental group (n = 14) $\bar{x} \pm SD$	Control group (n = 15) $\bar{x} \pm SD$	<i>p</i>
Mean age (years), $\bar{x} \pm SD$	30.57 \pm 11.97	31.47 \pm 10.78	0.64*
Sex [n (%)]			
male	14 (100)	14 (93.3)	1.0 [†]
female	0 (0)	1 (6.67)	
Start of magnetotherapy (week), $\bar{x} \pm SD$	7.43 \pm 3.25		
Duration of magnetotherapy (week), $\bar{x} \pm SD$	4.21 \pm 0.58		
Level of spinal cord injury [n (%)]			
cervical	7 (50)	2 (13.3)	
thoracic	4 (28.5)	8 (53.3)	
lumbosacral	1 (7.14)	1 (6.60)	
cervical-thoracic	1 (7.14)	2 (13.3)	
thoracic-lumbosacral	1 (7.14)	2 (13.3)	

* Analysis conducted using Mann Whitney Exact Test

[†] Analysis conducted using Fischer Exact Test

Statistic analysis included Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, Shapiro-Wilk test, Mann Whitney Exact test, Exact Wilcoxon signed rank test and Fischer's Exact test. Statistical significance was set up to $p < 0.05$. The data was assessed by SPSS version 10.0 for Windows.

Results

A total of 33 patients were recruited by a rehabilitation specialist, neurosurgical specialist and physiotherapist. Out of them three refused to participate. Thirty patients were ran-

domized. There was no significant difference between the groups in terms of functional capabilities: at the end of the treatment, the patients of both groups achieved a significant functional improvement (Table 2).

There were significant differences between the groups in terms of ASIA impairment class. At the end of the treatment the majority of the patients from the experimental group (57.14%) moved from the ASIA-A to the ASIA-B class; at the end of the treatment the majority of the patients from the control group (60%) remained in the ASIA-A class (Table 3).

Table 2
Functional capability defined by the Functional Independent Measure (FIM) and the Bartel Index

Clinical test	Experimental group		Control group		p*
	start x̄ ± SD	end x̄ ± SD	start x̄ ± SD	end x̄ ± SD	
FIM	51.64 ± 11.71	78.07 ± 23.10	61.31 ± 20.84	78.54 ± 26.00	WEG = 0.001 WCG = 0.008 BGS = 0.16 BGE = 0.62
Bartel Index	17.14 ± 11.04	62.50 ± 29.66	28.46 ± 26.25	54.62 ± 28.54	WEG = 0.001 WCG = 0.008 BGS = 0.32 BGE = 0.63

* Mann Whitney Exact Test and Exact Wilcoxon Signed Rang Test; WEG – within experimental group; WCG – within control group; BGS – between groups at the start; BGE – between groups at the end

Table 3
American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) impairment at the start and at the end of the treatment

ASIA class	Experimental group		Control group		p*
	start n (%)	end n (%)	start n (%)	end n (%)	
A	13 (92.87)	2 (14.29)	13 (86.67)	9 (60.00)	BGS = 1.0
B		8 (57.14)		1 (6.67)	
C	1 (7.14)	2 (14.29)	2 (13.33)	2 (13.33)	BGE = 0.01
D		1 (7.14)		1 (6.67)	
E		1 (7.14)		2 (13.33)	

* Fischer Exact Test. BGS – between the groups at the start; BGE - between groups at the end

There were significant differences between the groups in terms of the presence of HO at the end of the treatment. In the experimental group, no one had HO. In the control group, five patients (33.3%) had several grades of HO (Table 4). These HO were mostly in the Brooker classes I and II (Figure 2).

Discussion

This study showed that the patients with traumatic SCI, who were treated by PLIMF, had no HO at the end of the treatment. On the other hand, 33.33% of the patients who

Table 4

Heterotopic ossification at the end of the treatment

Grade	Experimental group (n = 14) n (%)	Control group (n = 15) n (%)	p*
0	14 (100)	10 (66.67)	0.04
1	0 (0)	2 (13.33)	
2	0 (0)	2 (13.33)	
3	0 (0)	1 (6.67)	
4	0 (0)	0 (0)	

*Fischer Exact Test. Abbreviations



Fig. 2 – A patient with Brooker class I/II

were not treated by the PLIMF had HO around their hips. Inflammation was significantly diminished by PLIMF treatment. The majority of patients who were treated by PLIMF moved into the better ASIA class. These results could be explained by the biological effect of magnetic field. Pathophysiology of HO is not clear. Important contributing factors include tissue hypoxia, hypercalcemia, and changes in sympathetic nerve activity, prolonged immobilization and mobilization after that, disequilibrium between parathyroid hormone and calcitonin. Metabolic and vascular changes resulting from autonomic nervous system alterations might play a major role in HO metaplasia. Eicosanoids (prostaglandins and leukotriens) are important factors in bone metabolism. Subcutaneous injection of prostaglandin E2 induces HO bone formation. An important step in the ossification process is fibroblastic metaplasia⁵. The membranous ossification usually predominates in the process of HO for-

mation⁴. Rehabilitation, in terms of ROM and exercise therapy, drug treatment and radiation therapy are considered the mainstay of HO prevention^{1,4,5}. However, all of these therapies have the notable side effects. An experimental investigation was demonstrated that forcible manipulation during ROM and exercise therapy can induce HO formation⁴. Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) have well-known side effects that most commonly affect the gastric, hepatic and renal systems. A treatment with bisphosphonate, etidronate disodium (EHDP), generally is a safe method of prevention and treatment of HO. But, there is a potential risk of bone fracture when it is used for prolonged periods. A "rebound ossification" secondary to prolonged osteoclast inhibition has also been postulated. Radiation therapy is rarely associated with malignancy. However, increased rates of trochanteric non-union with high dose fractionated radiotherapy in populations following total hip arthroplasty were found². Magnetic fields, like other physical procedures, have common and specific contraindications, but their side effects are minimal^{12,15}. Mild insomnia or some kind of psychological disturbances, were described mostly at the elderly¹².

The fact that we have not recorded any side effect during the magnetic field therapy, testifies that PLIMF is safe and useful physical procedure. Before creation of the study we had a few dilemmas regarding the biological effect of PLIMF. Namely, in Western medicine magnets are not considered as medical remedy¹⁶. In some well designed clinical studies the value of magnetic fields were not confirmed^{13,14}. In the absence of randomized, placebo control trials, the medical community is understandably skeptical regarding to acceptance of magnets as a valid option. We believed that PLIMF can help in prevention of HO formation, but, on the other hand, we were aware about the influence of PLIMF on the bone adhesion¹². Histologically, HO cannot be differentiated from calus formation of a healing fracture. Nevertheless, the results of this study confirmed our assumptions that PLIMF can help in prevention of HO formation in patients with traumatic SCI. Therefore, we chose high-dosage PLIMF. We suppose that the main reason for the prevention HO in this study was the effect of magnetic field on microcirculation and cell membranes. Contributing factors in HO formation, a tissue hypoxia and sympathetic nerve activity, in the first place, were diminished or eliminated by PLIMF. Pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field promoted blood flow and red cell increase in the treated area. It is possible that the influence on the central nervous system and local effect on intra- and extracellular water were achieved. There is a theoretical possibility that magnetic fields could realign chromosomes⁵. This possibility could be important due to a link of some ligaments ossification with a genetic locus to the HLA region on the short arm of chromosome Gp⁵. A very important step in the ossification process is fibroblastic metaplasia. It is possible that PLIMF inhibited this process changing an arrangement of ions in the cell membranes¹². Phospholipids in cell membranes have both diamagnetic and paramagnetic properties. We explain significant reduction of

inflammation in the experimental group by the fact that magnetic field can increase the partial pressure of tissue oxygen and improve oxygen delivery to tissues. It is also known that magnetic field can raise the common adaptation capabilities of organism^{12,15,17,26,27}. In such a way, we can explain significantly higher number of patients in the experimental group who moved from A to B ASIA class at the end of the treatment.

We could not compare our results directly with those of other studies. Many authors researched HO in different conditions. Massive ectopic calcification of muscles is possible after the injury of femoral artery²⁹. Incidence of HO in some neurological diseases, such as Guillain-Barre Syndrome (41.6%), was higher than the incidence of HO after SCI toward the statements of some authors^{5,30}. However, our results confirm the statements of some authors that incidence of HO in patients with SCI are from 11 to 75%^{2,4}. Additionally, some authors compared different ways of prophylaxis of HO in several orthopedic conditions^{31,32}. The prophylaxis of HO could be incomplete in patients with internal fixation of an acetabular fracture. Contrary to our results, Schafer et al.⁹ have found that of 32 patients treated with indomethacin 14 had HO; of 36 patients treated with radiation therapy 13 had HO. In our group of patients treated with PLIMF no one had HO. We concluded that passing of a significant number of the patients in the experimental group from A to B ASIA class at the end of the treatment is important and can be related with PLIMF. This is in accordance with the results of Scivoleto et al.³³ who found that ASIA impairment designations had significant prognostic value. In subject with paraplegia proximal femoral bone mineral density (BMD) is lower than at able-bodied people. It is known that magnetic field can improve an energy cell balance and accelerate the basal metabolic rate (BMR)¹². It can be important for our study because of Yilmaz et al.³⁴ have found that BMR is closely associated with BMD. Magnets, as well as acupuncture, are a kind of complementary therapies used in rehabilitation¹⁶. Magnetic field, beside others, can act across the acupuncture points^{12,16}. This is relevant for our results as acupuncture diminishing a shoulder pain in the patient with SCI³⁵. Biochemical parameters in our study were similar to parameters of other authors. The fact that ALP was not significantly different between the groups at the start and the end of the treatment is in accordance with the opinion that elevated ALP has no value in predicting HO³. These results confirmed our assumptions that PLIMF can help in prophylaxis of HO after traumatic SCI. Regarding a record that treatment of HO by the combination of NSAIDs, radiation therapy and surgery have well-known side effect and serious limitations, the question is if PLIMF treatment of HO could be successful.

Limitations of this study come out of a relatively small sample size that may reduce interpretation of the same observations. We did not carry out the most accurate diagnostics. Ultrasonography, computed tomography (CT), or bone scintigraphy have an important role in the diagnosis of early unmineralised HO. Although plain radiography is highly specific in the diagnosis of HO, this method lacks sensitivity

in early diagnosis. Similarly, an increased ECR is an important mark of inflammation. But C-reactive protein (CRP) may also be elevated in acute HO⁴. We did not check serum creatine phosphokinase (CPK) as well, beside the fact that elevated CPK have value in predicting HO³. At the end, as mineralization and true bone formation are usually completed in 6–18 months after SCI, there is a need for further follow-up with intention to answer the question of the even-

tual remote effects of PLIMF on the HO in patients with traumatic SCI².

Conclusion

Pulse low-intensity electromagnetic field therapy can help as prophylaxis of HO in the patients with traumatic SCI.

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Dopa-reaktivna distonija

Dopa-responsive dystonia

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Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Distonija predstavlja produženu nevoljnu kontrakciju koja dovodi do uvrtnja, repetitivnih pokreta ili zauzimanja abnormalnog položaja. Etiološki može se klasifikovati kao primarna i sekundarna distonija. Dopa-reaktivna distonija pripada grupi primarnih distonija. Cilj rada bio je otkrivanje prisustva mutacije u genu GCH-I u našoj populaciji kod bolesnika sa dopa-reaktivnim distoničkim diskinezijama i analiza kliničkih specifičnosti oboljelih. **Metode.** Iz grupe bolesnika sa distonijama različite distribucije izdvojena su četiri bolesnika kod kojih je klinička slika ukazivala na dijagnozu dopa-reaktivne distonije (DRD). Dva bolesnika imala su pozitivnu porodičnu anamnezu, a dva slučaja bila su sporadični. Genetička analiza izvršena je pomoću standardnog protokola koji je uključivao PCR amplifikaciju i sekvenciranje DNK po metodi Sengera sa korišćenjem autoradiografije. **Rezultati.** Kod bolesnika iz porodice DRD-1 otkrivena je nova, heterozigotna *point* mutacija 520G→A u 4-m egzonu gena GCH-I. Prvi simptomi bolesti počeli su u sedmoj godini života uvrtnjem levog stopala, progresivno su napredovali i doveli do razvoja ukočenosti u nogama, otežanog hoda koji se u večernjim satima pogoršavao, a uvođenje u terapiju levodope (500 mg) uslovlilo je „dramatičan“ efekat. Druga mutacija kod bolesnice iz porodice DRD-2 bila je homozigotna delecija u 1-m intronu gena GCH-I (IVS1-85delA). Nevoljno uvrtnje stopala, osećaj slabosti donjih ekstremiteta zbog čega je bolesnica padala bez gubitka svesti bile su kliničke manifestacije bolesti. Primena levodope u dozi od 300 mg dovela je do regresije simptoma bolesti. Heterozigotna delecija adenina u poziciji 209 u prvom ekzonu (209del A) identifikovana je kod bolesnika DRD-3 sa negativnom porodičnom anamnezom, kod koga se u 10. godini života prvo javilo uvrtnje stopala prema unutra, potom podrhtavanje leve i desne noge u miru; u daljem toku bolesti posle nekoliko godina javio se i tremor ruku, koji se pogoršavao u stresnim situacijama. Otac našag bolesnika bio je asimptomatski nosilac mutacije. Četvrta mutacija u genu GCH-I nađena je u I egzonu gena GCH-I, 208delA. Bolest je počela uvrtnjem levog stopala, sporo se razvijala, pri čemu je pogoršanje tegoba nastupalo u većim satima, a oko 30. godine kretanje je postalo teže sa pojačanim zamaranjem i bolovima u mišićima, a u 40. godini bolesnica je primetila da se i govor izmenio. Primena levodope u dozi od 300mg/dnevno učinila je da se bolesnica dobro oseća i samostalno kreće. **Zaključak.** U radu su prikazana četiri bolesnika sa genetskom potvrdom dijagnoze dopa-reaktivne distonije, pošto se radi o entitetu koji je veoma važan u diferencijalnoj dijagnostici ranih distonija (< 26 godina) i ranog parkinsonizma (< 40 godina). Postavljanje dijagnoze ove bolesti od velikog je značaja jer se bolest može izvanredno kontrolisati primenom relativno malih doza levodope u dugom vremenskom periodu.

Ključne reči:

distonički poremećaji; dijagnoza; lečenje lekovima; levodopa; lečenje, ishod; dijagnoza, diferencijalna; mutacija.

Abstract

Background/Aim. Dystonia is considered to be a prolonged involuntary contractions of the muscles leading to twisting, repetitive movements or irregular postures. Etiologically, it could be classified as primary and secondary dystonia. Dopa-responsive dystonia (DRD) belongs to a group of primary dystonia. The aim of this study was to detect the presence of gene GCH-I mutation in our population in patients with dopa-responsive dystonic dyskinesia and to analyse clinical specificity of the affected. **Methods.** Out of the group of patients with dystonia of different distribution four patients were separated whose clinical picture indicated the diagnosis of DRD. Two patients had a positive family anamnesis while the other two were sporadic. Genetic analysis was performed by the use of a standard protocol, which included PCR amplification and DNK sequencing according to the method of Senger and autoradiography. **Results.** In the patients from the family DRD-1 new heterozygote point mutation 520G→A in 4-m exon gene GCH-I was revealed. First symptoms of the disease showed in the age of seven by the torsion of the left foot, progressively advanced and got into the evolution of numbness in the legs, aggravated gait, tending to worsen in the evening, and the therapy with levodopa (500 mg) produced a dramatic effect. The second mutation in the female patient from the family DRD-2 was homozygote deletion in 1-m intron gene GCH-I (IVS1-85delA). Unwilling torsion of the foot, feeling of weakness in the lower extremities (that caused falling without loss of the consciousness) were clinical demonstrations of the disease. The application of levodopa (300 mg) caused regression of the symptoms of the disease. Heterozygote deletion of adenine in the position 209 in the first exon (209del A) was identified in the patient DRD-3 with negative family anamnesis, in who in the age of ten the torsion of the foot inside occurred for the first time following by trembling of both the left and right legs at rest; after a few years, tremor of hands also appeared, which became worse in stressful situations. The father of the patient was an asymptomatic bearer of mutation. The fourth mutation in gene GCH-I was found in I exon gene GCH-I, 208delA. The disease was started by torsion of the left foot, progressing easily, and worsening in the evenings, but at the age of 30, moving became harder, fatigue and pain in muscles, increased and at the age of 40 the patient recognised the change of speech. The application of levodopa (300 mg/daily) made the patient feel better and walk independently. **Conclusion.** The study presented four patients with genetic confirmation of the diagnosis of dopa-responsive dystonia. This entity is very significant in differential diagnostics of both early dystonia (< 26 years) and early parkinsonism (< 40 years) since it can be successfully managed by applying relatively low doses of levodopa over a long period of time.

Key words:

dystonic disorders; diagnosis; drug therapy; levodopa; treatment outcome; diagnosis differential; mutation.

Uvod

Distonija je produžena nevoljna kontrakcija koja dovodi do uvrtnja, repetitivnih pokreta ili zauzimanja abnormalnog položaja¹. U etiološkom smislu ona može biti klasifikovana kao primarna distonija, koja ima distoniju kao jedinu kliničku manifestaciju bolesti, i kao sekundarna ili simptomatska. U grupi primarnih izdvajaju se distonija plus sindromi u kojima je distonija samo jedna od postojećih diskinezija (tj. nevoljnih pokreta). Upravo u ovu kategoriju spada dopa-reaktivna distonija (DRD).

Rani opisi ove bolesti potiču sa kraja pedesetih godina prošlog veka, kada su slične tegobe kod dva srodnika tada prikazane bolesnice pobudile sumnju na nasledljivost njene bolesti². Kada je 1994. godine mutacija u genu za guanozin trifosfat hidrolazu-I (GCH-I) identifikovana kao glavni uzročnik DRD, sa zakašnjenjem od 49 godina mutacija je potvrđena *post mortem* i kod ove bolesnice^{3,4}.

Segawa i sar.¹, i pre otkrića odgovorne mutacije, ukazali su na različitost i karakteristične osobine ove distonije, a pre svega reaktivnost na levodopu, po čemu je bolest i dobila ime. Verovatno je da ova bolest čini oko 5–10% distonija detinjstva i adolescentnog perioda, mada studije o prevalenciji govore o jednom obolelom na dva miliona stanovnika⁶. U svakom slučaju, klinički je značajno pravilo da kod svih bolesnika sa ranim razvojem distonije (< 26 godina) treba *ex juvantibus* na početku lečenja napraviti probu sa primenom levodope.

Beogradu, izdvojena su četiri bolesnika kod kojih je klinička slika ukazivala na DRD. Kriterijumi za postavljanje dijagnoze i uključivanje bolesnika u studiju bili su: početak u ranom detinjstvu, između 18 meseci i osam godina života; posturalna distonija češće na donjim ekstremitetima; dnevne fluktuacije tegoba; „dramatičan“ odgovor na levodopu; pretpostavljeno dominantno nasleđe sa nepotpunom penetracijom; odsustvo poznatog moždanog oštećenja (normalni rezultati dopunskih dijagnostičkih procedura: kompjuterizovane tomografije (KT), nuklearne magnetne rezonance (NMR) i elektroencefalografskog ispitivanja (EEG); normalno kognitivno funkcionisanje.

Članovi porodica bolesnika, takođe, ambulantno su ispitivani, kada su im posle detaljnih pregleda, a posle davanja informisanog pristanka, uzimani uzorci krvi.

Molekularnogenetička istraživanja obavljena su u DNK laboratoriji Neurogenetičkog odeljenja Državne ustanove Naučno-istraživačkog instituta neurologije Ruske akademije medicinskih nauka, u Odeljenju humane molekularne genetike Instituta molekularne genetike Ruske akademije nauka i u Genetskoj laboratoriji u Luebecku. U istraživanju je korišćen kompleks bazičnih molekularnogenetičkih metoda ispitivanja, kao što je ranije opisano⁸.

Rezultati

Kod dva bolesnika (tabela 1) postojala je porodična anamneza za sličnu bolest u porodici, dok je kod ostala dva u pitanju bila sporadična bolest (slika 1).

Tabela 1

Kliničko-demografske karakteristike bolesnika sa dopa-reaktivnom distonijom (DRD)

Bolesnici (proband)	Porodična anamneza	Uzrast (god.)	Početak bolesti (god.)	Prvi simptom	Tremor ruku	Pojačani mišićni refleksi	Forma bolesti	Dnevne fluktuacije	Tip mutacije
DRD-1	+	44	7	distonija stopala	+	–	distonija + parkinsonizam	+	4 ekzon, tačkasta mutacija 520G→A
DRD-2	+	75	~2 decenije	distonija stopala	+	–	generalizovana distonija	–	I intron homozigotna delecija IVS1.85 delA
DRD-3	–	18	10	distonija stopala	+	–	distonija nogu	–	I ekzon 208delA
DRD-4	–	54	~2 decenije	distonija stopala	–	+	distonija nogu	+	I ekzon 208delA

Obično se DRD ispoljava klasičnim generalizovanim fenotipom sa početkom bolesti u prvoj deceniji života, razvojem distoničnih pokreta u nogama, poremećajem hoda, ali u nekim slučajevima bolest ima atipičnu kliničku sliku sa razvojem neobičnog hoda, spastične paraplegije, parkinsonizma ili fokalne distonije^{4,7}.

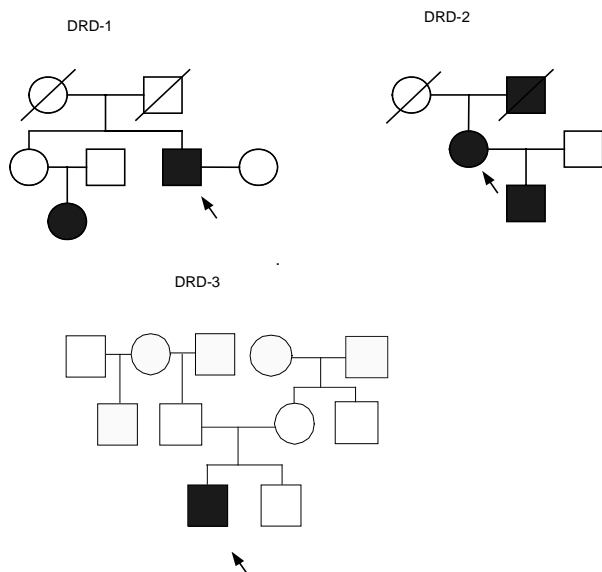
Cilj našeg rada bio je otkrivanje prisustva mutacije u genu GCH-I u našoj populaciji kod bolesnika sa dopa-reaktivnim distoničkim diskinezijama i analiza kliničkih specifičnosti obolelih.

Metode

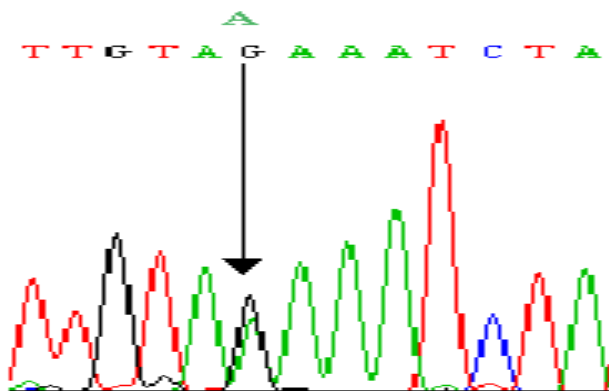
Iz grupe bolesnika sa distonijama različite distribucije koji su lečeni u Odeljenju za poremećaje pokreta i degenerativne bolesti CNS Instituta za neurologiju Kliničkog centra Srbije u

Porodica DRD1. Kod probanda prvi simptomi počeli su u sedmoj godini života uvrtnjem levog stopala, zamorom, osećajem ukočenosti u nogama, naročito posle dužeg hoda, te podrhtavanjem ruku. Bolest je imala fluktuirajući karakter sa lakšim simptomima u jutarnjim satima uz brzo napredovanje, što je uslovalo da se bolesnik u 15. godini života mogao kretati samo uz tuđu pomoć. Primena antiholinergika (biperidin, 6–10 mg dnevno) dovela je do značajnog poboljšanja, a povoljan efekat terapije održavao se nekoliko godina. Usledilo je značajno pogoršanje tremora ruku koji se javljao u paroksizmima, a uvrtnje, nevoljni pokreti u stopalima i ukočenost u nogama otežavali su hod koji je postao nespretn i usporen. Uvođenje levodope u terapiju (500 mg dnevno) uslovalo je „dramatičan“ efekat, koji se održava i sada, posle više godina, bez komplikacija. Genetičkom analizom uzoraka DNK kod bolesnika otkri-

vena je nova, heterozigotna tačkasta mutacija 520G→A u četvrtom egzonu gena GCH-I (slika 2).



Sl. 1 – Geneološka analiza ispitivanih porodica



Sl. 2 – Mutacija 520G→A u 4-m ekzonu gena GCH-I (u heterozigotnom stanju)

Kod drugog bolesnika iz ove porodice bolest je počela, takođe, u prvoj deceniji života generalizovanom distonijom i poboljšanjem simptoma bolesti u jutarnjim satima ili u toku dana posle spavanja, a lečenje malim dozama levodope (400 mg dnevno) dovelo je do potpune regresije bolesti.

Porodica DRD2. Prvi simptom bolesti kod bolesnika bio je nevoljno uvrtnje stopala koje je počelo u ranom detinjstvu. Posle porođaja uvrtnje stopala se pogoršalo, hod je postao otežan, a u 50. godini života javilo se i podrhtavanje ruku, nespretnost i otežan hod, kao i česti padovi bez gubitka svesti, ali sa povređivanjem. Primenom levodope (300 mg dnevno) distonični pokreti značajno su smanjeni, hod poboljšao, a padova nije bilo.

Kod još jednog člana porodice postojao je blagi poremećaj hoda sa sporom progresijom od detinjstva.

Homozigotna delecija u prvom intronu gena GCH-I (IVS1-85delA) otkrivena je kod probanda.

Porodica DRD3. Treća otkrivena mutacija u našem istraživanju bila je heterozigotna delecija adenina u poziciji

209 u prvom egzonu (209del A) gena GCH-I; identifikovana je kod bolesnika sa naizgled negativnom porodičnom anamnezom. Bolesnik je imao uobičajen psihomotorni razvoj, a u 10. godini života prvo se javilo uvrtnje stopala pri hodu prema unutra, koje je vremenom postalo učestalo, potom podrhtavanje leve, a potom i desne noge u miru. U daljem toku bolesti, posle nekoliko godina, javio se i tremor ruku, prvo leve, a onda i desne, koji se pogoršavao u stresnim situacijama. Dobar odgovor na levodopu uočen je odmah po uvođenju leka. Otac našag bolesnika bio je asimptomatski nosilac mutacije.

Porodica DRD4. Četvrta mutacija u genu GCH-I nađena je u I egzonu gena GCH-I, 208delA (delecija adenina u poziciji 208), kod naizgled sporadične bolesnice (slika 3). Prve tegobe počele su, u srednjoškolskom uzrastu, uvrtnjem levog stopala pri hodu, a pogoršavale su se u popodnevnom i večernjim satima. Bolest je imala sporo progresivan tok. Oko 30. godine kretanje je postalo teže sa pojačanim zamaranjem i bolovima u mišićima, a u 40. godini bolesnica je primetila da se i govor izmenio. Poslednjih 10 godina kretanje je postalo moguće samo uz pomagalo, a tri godine pre prve hospitalizacije u Institutu za neurologiju nije mogla da samostalno obavlja svakodnevne aktivnosti i zavisila je od tuđe pomoći. Postavljena je dijagnoza DRD i uvedena je levodopa u dozi od 300 mg/dnevno, od kada se bolesnica dobro oseća i samostalno kreće.

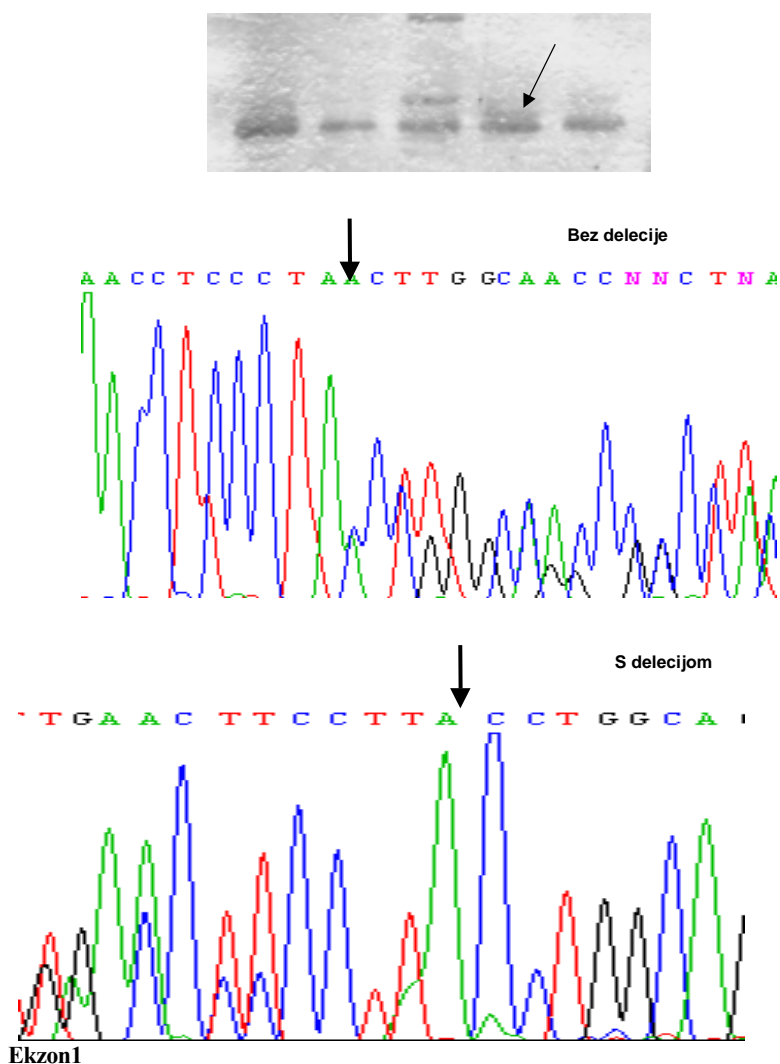
Diskusija

Analizom DNK kod naših bolesnika sa kliničkom slikom DRD otkrivene su četiri mutacije u genu GCH-I. Dva bolesnika imala su pozitivnu porodičnu anamnezu za ovo oboljenje, a kod dva bolesnika bolest je imala sporadičan karakter (slika 1).

U porodici DRD-1 i DRD-2 kliničkogenetička analiza ukazala je na jasan autosomnodominantni tip nasleđa, pri čemu u porodici DRD-1, oboljenje nije prisutno kod majke bolesnice, čiji je rođeni brat imao istu kliničku sliku, što bi govorilo o nepotpunoj penetrantnosti mutiranog gena (slika 1). Nepotpuna penetrantnost mutiranog gena GCH-I opisana je kod više porodica sa DRD različite etničke pripadnosti⁹. Opisana mutacija u genu GCH-I češća je kod žena¹⁰.

Gotovo svi bolesnici sa mutacijom u genu GCH-I imali su početak bolesti u prvoj deceniji života (3/4), a prema podacima iz literature ona se može razviti još intrauterino¹¹.

Kod svih naših bolesnika prve distoničke smetnje nastale su u nogama, kako se to uobičajeno i uočava, mada se izuzetno retko prvi simptomi mogu ispoljiti u rukama¹². Samo jedan bolesnik iz naše grupe imao je znake parkinsonizma. Kod nekih članova porodica obolelih od DRD parkinsonizam može biti i jedina manifestacija bolesti, kada uobičajeno postoji rigiditet (nekada kao monosimptom), bradi- i hipokineza, posturalni tremor, posturalna nestabilnost i tremor u miru^{13,14}. Zbog toga, nije lako napraviti diferencijalnu dijagnozu prema juvenilnom parkinsonizmu¹⁵. Piramidni znaci, međutim, kod DRD za razliku od juvenilnog parkinsonizma, bar kada su u pitanju pojačani mišićni refleksi, odlikuju se povlačenjem pod dejstvom levodope, što je, možda, razlog



CGCTCCCGGCTCGGAGTGTGATCTAAGCAGGTTGCGTACCTTCCTCAGGT
 GACTCCGGCCACAGCCATTGTCCGCGGCCACCGGCGGAGTTTAGCCGCA
 GACCTCGAAGCGCCCCGGGGTCTTCCCGAACGGCAGCGGCTGCGGCGGG
 TCC

**Korirajuća oblast ATGGAGAAGGGCCCTGTGCGGGCACCGGCGGAGAAGCCGCGGGG-
 CGC-47**

CAGGTGCAGCAATGGGTTCCCCGAGCGGGATCCGCCGCGGCCCGGGCCCAGCAGGC-
 CGGCGGAGAAGCCCCGCGGCCCGAGGCCAAGAGCGCGCAGCCC-
 CGGACGGCTGGAAGGGCGAGCGGCCCGCAGCGAGGAGGATAACGAGCT-197

208delA

GAACCTCCCTAACCTGGCAGCCGCCTACTCGTCCATCCTGAGCTCGCTGG
 GCGAGAACCCCGAGCGGCAAGGGCTGCTCAAGACGCCCTGGAGGGCGGCC-297

Sl. 3 – DRD-4– DRD – mutacija ekzon 1 208delA

da ovom simptomu nije posvećena velika pažnja u slučajevima DRD^{15, 16}. U kojoj meri nije lako napraviti razliku između ove dve bolesti, pokazuje i činjenica da je u jednom broju klinički tipičnih ispoljavanja sa DRD potvrđeno prisustvo parkin mutacije, karakteristične za autosomno recesivni parkinsonizam ranog početka¹⁷.

Gen za DRD identifikovan je na hromozomu 14 i kodiran je za guanozin-trifosfat-ciklohidrolazu I (GCH-I)³, koja je veoma značajna u metabolizmu dopamina. Ovaj enzim je prvi i ograničavajući u sintezi tetrahidrobiopterina, koji je sa svoje strane esencijalni kofaktor aminokiselinskih hidrolaza, kakve su tirozin-hidroksilaza i triptofan-hidroksilaza.

Nedovoljna količina tetrahidrobiopterina ima udela u smanjenoj aktivnosti tirozin-hidroksilaze u proizvodnji levodope, a potom i dopamina¹⁸. Kao potvrda patogenetskog značaja mutacije u ovom genu govori značajno sniženje nivoa aktivnosti enzima GCH-I (< 20% od početnog nivoa) kod bolesnika sa DRD³.

Dva naša bolesnika imala su diurnalne fluktuacije motornih simptoma. I pored toga što je u ranijoj definiciji bolesti, jedna od njenih odrednica bila dnevna fluktuacija simptoma (bolje u jutarnjim, gore u večernjim satima) ne treba zaboraviti da se ona javlja kod oko 75% obolelih uz široke varijacije^{6,12}. Osim toga, dnevne fluktuacije nisu ekskluzivni simptom obolelih od DRD⁵. Naime, bolesnici sa juvenilnim parkinsonizmom, takođe, u većini slučajeva imaju varijacije izraženosti simptoma, što se viđa i u manjem broju obolelih od idiopatske torziona distonije.

Kod većine naših bolesnika lečenje je započeto sa velikom latencijom koja se kretala u rasponu od nekoliko do maksimalno 40 godina. Zanimljivo je da klinički tok bolesti kod nelečenih slučajeva može postati izuzetno ozbiljan, praćen pojavom nesamostalnosti, pa čak i vezanosti za postelju, kao što je bio slučaj kod dva naša bolesnika¹⁴. Smatra se da bolest kod preko 75% obolelih, ako se ne leči, postaje generalizovana u svom toku, i to u relativno kratkom intervalu, mada je ovaj period nekada i duži (10 godina)¹². Izgleda da postoji sklonost ka ozbiljnijoj kliničkoj slici i bržoj generalizaciji kod žena, ali i kod onih osoba kod kojih je bolest ranije počela¹².

Pojava bolesti u ranom detinjstvu sa distoničkim nevoljnim pokretima razlog je za često postavljanje pogrešne dijagnoze dečje cerebralne oduzetosti. Zbog toga, na ovu bolest treba misliti i ne zaboraviti da svaki neobjašnjeni poremećaj hoda u ranom detinjstvu mora da pobudi sumnju i na DRD¹¹. Neretko, zbog nekada pojačanih mišićnih refleksa, prisustva strijatnog palca, za bolesnika se može misliti da ima dečju cerebralnu paralizu, a opisani su bolesnici sa višegodisnjim odlaganjem u započinjanju lečenja, upravo zbog postavljanja pogrešne dijagnoze⁴.

Neurološkim pregledom mogu biti zapaženi pojačani mišićni refleksi kod najviše 20% obolelih (najčešće bez znaka Babinskog), što je zapaženo kod jedne naše bolesnice. Tvrdi se da refleksi mogu biti normalizovani primenom levodope što je i bio slučaj kod naše bolesnice^{15,19}. Normalno centralno vreme sprovođenja motornog korteksa pri elektromagnetnoj stimulaciji sugerise nepiramidnu prirodu ovog znaka²⁰.

Kod nekih porodica klinička slika je različita kod njenih članova. Kod probanda u DRD3 porodici niko od članova porodice nije imao slične smetnje, ali genetička analiza pokazala je da je otac bolesnika asimptomatski nosilac mutacije, što govori u prilog nepotpune penetrantnosti mutiranog gena. Ako bi jedino prisustvo distonije bilo prihvaćeno kao znak postojanja bolesti kod srodnika, onda je penetrantnost DRD 31%, a ako uzmemo u obzir i članove porodice sa slikom moguće i verovatne distonije, ona raste na 42–62%. Ukoliko se kao izraz nasledene bolesti shvati parkinsonizam, onda vrednost penetrantnosti pada na 25%. Kada se, međutim, uzmu u obzir svi oblici moguće DRD (definitivna, verovatna

i moguća distonija, parkinsonizam), onda penetrantnost postaje gotovo kompletna¹³.

Primena preparata levodope praktično dovodi do potpune remisije bolesti. Kod bolesnika u porodici DRD1 početno je primenjena veća doza levodope od 500 mg dnevno, koja je potom smanjena na dozu od 100 mg dnevno, dok se kod drugih naših bolesnika raspon dnevne doze levodope kretao od 100–300 mg. Kao što i ime bolesti govori, osnovna terapijska strategija podrazumeva primenu levodope i preporučena je doza od 10 mg na kg telesne mase na dan¹⁵. Lek se mora primenjivati dovoljno dugo, a uobičajeno je da odrasla osoba mora uzimati prve četiri nedelje 400 mg levodope, a sledeće četiri nedelje po 600 mg⁴. Ipak, latencija između pojave prvih simptoma i započinjanja terapije u nekim studijama izuzetno je duga (10–30 godina), a opisan je i bolesnik kod koga je terapija otpočela 58 godina posle zapažanja prvih simptoma¹². Na sreću, čak i kada se dijagnoza postavi ovako kasno i sa razvijenom slikom bolesti, efekat lečenja neće biti loš i neće zaostajati po uspešnosti za bolesnicima kod kojih je bolest dijagnostikovana na vreme¹¹. Pozitivan efekat lečenja može se zapaziti nekoliko dana do nekoliko meseci od započinjanja terapije i, u principu je trajan¹².

Ni kod jednog od naših bolesnika nisu primećeni neželjeni efekti primene leka. To je u skladu sa zapažanjem da se kod ovih bolesnika ni posle duže primene levodope ne razvijaju neželjena dejstva leka (diskinezije, fluktuacije terapijskog odgovora, psihoze), čak ni posle višedecenijske primene, što je različito od bolesnika sa Parkinsonovom bolešću, kod kojih je ova komplikacija gotovo pravilo^{6,12,21}. Odsustvo neželjenih dejstava lečenja može biti objašnjeno postojanjem očuvanog mehanizma skladištenja dopamina u presinaptičkim dopaminergičkim završecima kod obolelih sa DRD⁶. Ipak i od ovog, nazovi pravila, postoje izuzeci. Kod izvesnog broja obolelih zapaženi su blagi horeički pokreti, ali su oni nestajali brzo posle smanjenja ili posle samo lakog povišenja dnevne doze levodope¹².

Bolesnik iz porodice DRD-1, pre nego što je bio hospitalizovan u našoj ustanovi i pre nego što je postavljena dijagnoza DRD, u 15. godini života lečen je primenom antiholinergika, posledičnim delimičnim smanjenjem tegoba, što se održavalo više od 10 godina. To je u skladu sa sugestijom da se genetsko testiranje na DRD obavi kod slučajeva idiopatske torziona distonije koji su reagovali na antiholinergičku terapiju⁴.

Zaključak

Dopa-reaktivna distonija jeste klinički entitet koji je veoma važan u diferencijalnoj dijagnozi ranih distonija (< 26 godina) i ranog parkinsonizma (< 40 godina). Ukoliko se prepozna, može izvanredno da se kontroliše primenom relativno malih doza levodope u dugom vremenskom periodu.

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Da li je akutna sensorineuralna nagluvost hitno stanje?

Does acute sensorineural deafness befall to urgent conditions?

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Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Akutna idiopatska sensorineuralna nagluvost (AISNN) jedna je od najkontroverznijih tema u otologiji. Cilj istraživanja bio je da se utvrdi da li vreme započinjanja terapije ima ikakav efekat na bolji oporavak sluha kod AISNN. **Metode.** Studija je dizajnirana kao retrospektivno istraživanje elektronske baze podataka bolesnika Klinike za uho, nos i grlo, Univerzitetske bolnice u Cirihu, u jedanaestogodišnjem periodu od 1995. do 2006. Identifikovan je 541 bolesnik sa dijagnozom AISNN. U analiziranom periodu, bolesnici su lečeni sedam dana inhalacijom karbogena (95% O₂ i 5% CO₂) i oralnim prednizolonom. Inicijalni gubitak sluha definisan je kao prosečni prag sluha u dB (PPS inicijalni) u 4 frekvence (0,5; 1; 2 i 4 kHz) zahvaćenog uha. Na isti način određena je vrednost finalnog praga sluha nakon terapije (PPS finalni). Poboljšanje sluha definisano je na tri načina: apsolutno poboljšanje sluha (dB) = PPS inicijalni – PPS finalni; relativno poboljšanje sluha (%) = apsolutno poboljšanje / (PPS inicijalni – PPS drugog uva) × 100; značajnim oporavkom smatrao se finalni PPS ≤ 30 dB ili ukoliko je bio jednak sa PPS drugog uha. **Rezultati.** Prosečni apsolutni oporavak sluha bio je 15,1 dB, a prosečni relativni oporavak 47%. Tristotinejedan bolesnik (57%) imao je značajan oporavak, dok 228 (43%) nije. Među bolesnicima koji su primili terapiju u prva 24 h od početka nagluposti, značajan oporavak sluha imalo je 56% i nije postojala značajna razlika između ove grupe bolesnika i grupe koja je primila terapiju posle 24 h, ali unutar sedam dana ($\chi^2 = 0,007$, DF = 1, $p > 0,01$). **Zaključak.** Na osnovu rezultata retrospektivne studije može se zaključiti da akutni gubitak sluha nije urgentno stanje i da terapiju nije potrebno započeti u prva 24 h, nego u prvih sedam dana.

Ključne reči:

sluh, senzornonervni gubitak; dijagnoza; lečenje; lečenje, ishod.

Abstract

Background/Aim. Idiopathic sudden sensorineural hearing loss (ISSHL) is one of the most controversial issues in otology. The aim of this study was to determine whether a delay in treatment has any influence on hearing recovery in ISSHL. **Method.** This study was designed as a retrospective evaluation of an electronic patient data base of the University Hospital Zürich from January 1995 to August 2006. Five hundred and forty one patients with a sudden hearing loss were identified. The standard treatment was carbogen inhalation (95% O₂ and 5% CO₂ eight times per day in the duration of 30 minutes) and prednisone orally (100 mg in one morning dose) for 7 days. Factor that was analyzed included the interval between the onset of symptoms and the beginning of the treatment. The initial hearing loss was described using the pure tone average (PTA in dB) hearing level at 4 frequencies (0.5, 1, 2 and 4 kHz). Hearing gain was expressed either as absolute hearing gain (dB values from initial PTA minus dB values from final PTA) or as relative hearing gain (absolute hearing gain divided by initial PTA minus baseline PTA) × 100. Significant recovery of hearing was defined as the final PTA ≤ 30 dB (or same as PTA of the opposite ear). **Results.** An absolute hearing gain between the initial audiogram and the final audiogram was 15.1 dB. The mean relative hearing gain was 47%. Three hundred one (57%) patients had a significant recovery of hearing, and 228 (43%) had not. If the patients received treatment in the first 24 hours after onset of symptoms, then the rate of significant recovery was 56%, and no significant difference existed between this group and the patients who received the therapy after 24 hours, but within seven days ($\chi^2 = 0.007$, DF = 1, $p > 0.01$). **Conclusion.** These results suggest that it is not critical to begin the treatment of ISSHL immediately as an emergency, but within seven days.

Key words:

hearing loss, sensorineural; diagnosis; therapy; treatment outcome.

Uvod

Akutna idiopatska senzorneuralna naglupost (AISNN) je gubitak sluha još uvek nejasne etiologije, veći od 30 dB u tri uzastopne frekvencije nastao u periodu od tri dana¹. Zbog nejasnoća u etiologiji i patogenezi akutne nagluposti, terapija je empirijska.

Većina autora preporučuje aktivno lečenje, iako je spontani oporavak sluha prisutan kod 65% bolesnika. Zaključak nekoliko studija bio je da ako bolesnik primi terapiju ranije, bolji je i odgovor na nju²⁻⁴. Stoga je cilj istraživanja bio da se utvrdi da li vreme započinjanja terapije ima bilo kakav efekat na bolji oporavak sluha kod AISNN.

Metode

Studija je dizajnirana kao retrospektivno istraživanje elektronske baze podataka bolesnika Klinike za uho, nos i grlo, Univerzitetske bolnice u Cirihi, u 11-godišnjem periodu od 1995 do 2006. Identifikovano je 970 bolesnika sa primarnom dijagnozom akutne senzorneuralne nagluposti. Bolesnici uključeni u studiju imali su naglupost veću od 30 dB u tri uzastopne frekvencije, nastalu u tri dana. Iz studije bili su isključeni bolesnici kod kojih je detaljnom dijagnostikom utvrđen uzrok akutne senzorneuralne nagluposti: kongenitalne anomalije – Mondini displazija i uvećan vestibularni akvedukt; infekcije – virusne, bakterijske; inflamacije – sarkoidoza, Cogan sindrom, Wegenerova granulomatoza; traume – prelom temporalne kosti, akutna akustična trauma; tumori – vestibularni švanom, metastaze u temporalnoj kosti, karcinomatni meningitis; druga oboljenja unutrašnjeg uha sa sindromom akutne nagluposti – *Morbus Menière*; primena ototoksičnih lekova; multipla skleroza.

Bolesnici su morali imati kompletne podatke bar dva audiograma, prvi pre terapije, i drugi najmanje četiri nedelje nakon završetka lečenja. Ukoliko je bilo više audiograma, poslednji se uzimao kao finalni.

Akutna naglupost dijagnostikovana je kao simptom kod 40 bolesnika sa Menièreovom bolesti; sedam sa barotraumom; sedam sa akutnom akustičnom traumom; četiri sa vestibularnim švanomom; tri sa Coganovim sindromom; jedan sa Fabrijevom bolesti; HIV infekciju imalo je dvoje bolesnika; boreliozu tri bolesnika; mumps dva; fibrozu displaziju jedan; Mondini displaziju jedan; fistulu labirinta dva; i multiplu sklerozu jedan bolesnik. Svi ovi bolesnici isključeni su iz dalje obrade.

Upotrebom unapred navedenih kriterijuma identifikovan je 541 bolesnik sa akutnom idiopatskom senzorneuralnom nagluposti sa potpunim podacima. Kod 12 bolesnika (2,2%) oštećenje je bilo bilateralno, te su i oni isključeni iz dalje analize zbog drugačije prirode bolesti. U daljem istraživanju koristili smo podatke 529 bolesnika.

Svi bolesnici bili su hospitalizovani i primali su istu terapiju. U analiziranom periodu, bolesnici su lečeni sedam dana inhalacijom karbogensa (95% O₂ i 5% CO₂, osam puta dnevno u trajanju od 30 minuta) i oralnim prednisolonom (100 mg u jednoj jutarnjoj dozi).

Inicijalni gubitak sluha definisan je kao prosečni prag sluha u dB (PPS inicijalni) u 4 frekvencije (0,5; 1, 2 i 4 kHz) zahvaćenog uha. Na isti način određena je vrednost finalnog praga sluha nakon terapije (PPS finalni).

Za pretpostavljeni nivo sluha na zahvaćenom uhu pre naglog gubitka sluha, smatrao se prosečni prag sluha u 4 frekvencije kod zdravog uha (PPS drugog uha).

Poboljšanje sluha definisalo se na tri načina: apsolutno poboljšanje sluha (dB) = PPS inicijalni – PPS finalni; relativno poboljšanje sluha (%) = apsolutno poboljšanje / (PPS inicijalni – PPS drugog uha) × 100 i kao značajni oporavak (finalni PPS ≤ 30 dB ili ukoliko je bio jednak sa PPS drugog uha).

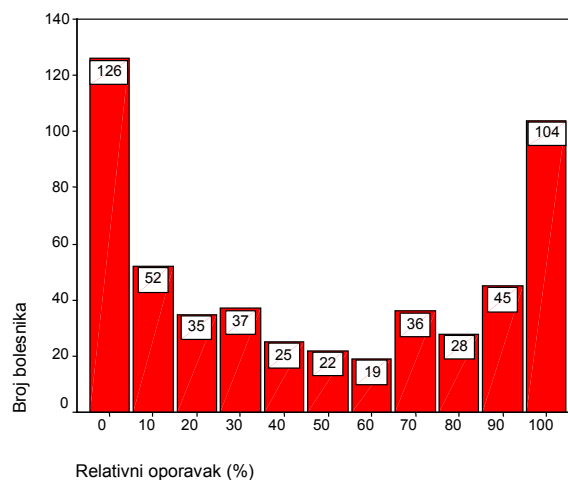
Rezultati

Istraživanjem je obuhvaćen 541 bolesnik sa akutnom idiopatskom senzorneuralnom nagluposti (329 muškaraca i 212 žena), starosti od 13 do 88 godina. Desnostrano oštećenje sluha imalo je 249 bolesnika, a levostrano 280.

Kod dvanaestoro bolesnika (2,2%) oštećenje je bilo bilateralno i oni su isključeni iz dalje analize.

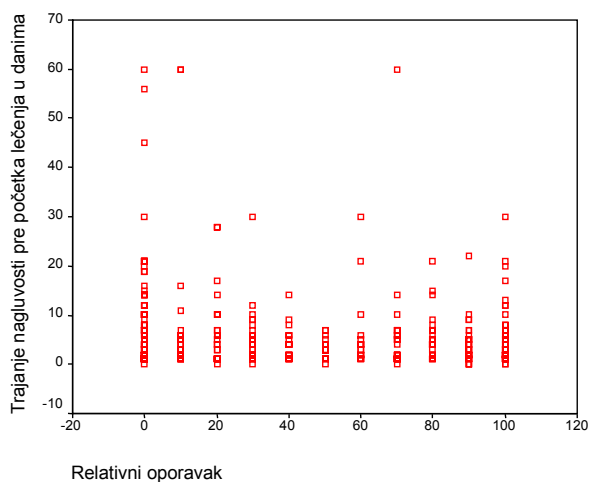
Prosečno vreme praćenja bolesnika bilo je 42 dana (od 28 do 125 dana).

Prosečni apsolutni oporavak sluha bio je 15,1 dB, a prosečni relativni oporavak 47%. Tristotine jedan bolesnik (57%) imao je značajan oporavak, dok 228 (43%) nije. Na slici 1 prikazan je broj bolesnika sa relativnim oporavkom sluha kategorisanim u 10% -grupe.



Sl. 1 – Broj bolesnika sa relativnim oporavkom sluha kategorisanim u 10% - grupe

Oporavak sluha u odnosu na trajanje simptoma nagluposti pre početka lečenja prikazan je na slici 2. U prvih sedam dana trajanja nagluposti 451 bolesnik primio je terapiju (85%), i značajno poboljšanje sluha imalo je 60%. Ovaj procenat pada na 40% ukoliko je terapija započela nakon sedam dana od pojave simptoma. Korelacija između trajanja nagluposti i apsolutnog i relativnog oporavka je značajna (*Spearmanov* koeficijent korelacije = 0,178; $p = 0,000$ za apsolutni oporavak i 0,149; $p = 0,001$ za relativni oporavak).



Sl. 2 – Oporavak sluha i trajanje nagluposti pre početka lečenja

Od bolesnika koji su primili terapiju tokom prva 24 h od pojave nagluposti, značajan oporavak sluha imalo je 56%, i nije postojala značajna razlika između ove grupe bolesnika i grupe koja je primila terapiju posle 24 h ($\chi^2 = 0,007$; $DF = 1$, $p > 0,01$).

Diskusija

Analizom odnosa vremena od započinjanja terapije i oporavka sluha kod 529 bolesnika sa unilateralnom AISNN, zaključeno je da akutna naglupost nije urgentno stanje i da terapiju nije neophodno započeti tokom prva 24 h. Efekat terapije na oporavak sluha bolji je ukoliko se terapija primi u prvih sedam dana.

U nekoliko studija se zaključuje da što ranije bolesnik primi terapiju, bolji je i odgovor na nju^{2,3}. Byl³ navodi kompletni oporavak kod 56%, kada se bolesnici leče u prvih sedam dana, i samo 27% ukoliko se leče posle više od 30 dana od početka AISNN. Shaia i Sheehy² navode da je bolja prognoza kada bolesnici prime terapiju tokom mesec dana od nastanka nagluposti. S obzirom na spontani tok oporavka sluha koji se dogodi kod oko 2/3 bolesnika bez tretmana, najčešće u prve dve nedelje, ne postoji nijedna studija kojom je jasno istražen povoljan uticaj ranog lečenja⁵. U našoj studiji 60% bolesnika koji su primili terapiju u prvih sedam dana od nastanka simptoma imalo je značajan oporavak. Ovaj procenat pada na 40% ukoliko su terapiju primili nakon više od sedam dana od nastanka nagluposti. Nasuprot tome, nema značajne razlike u oporavku sluha ukoliko je terapija započeta u prva 24 h ili ukoliko je započeta u prvoj nedelji. Ovaj rezultat sugerise da nije obavezno započeti terapiju akutne nagluposti u prva 24 h kao da je hitno stanje. Eksperimentalne studije Tabuchi i sar.⁶ prikazuju da 60-minutna anoksija uzrokovana pritiskom na labirintnu arteriju, izaziva ireverzibilne lezije kohlee zamorčića. Zaključak bi mogao biti da ukoliko je idiopatska akutna naglupost nastala zbog vaskularnog prekida, tada bi terapiju trebalo za-

početi tokom prvog sata od nastanka, što je nerealan cilj koji nije podržan kliničkim iskustvom. Drugi autori publikovali su slične rezultate^{7,8}.

Osnovni nedostatak naše studije je retrospektivni pristup. Bolesnici nisu bili deo protokola, već su lečeni na bazi kliničke procene u datom trenutku. Standardni terapijski protokol u Univerzitetskoj bolnici Cirihi, u analiziranom periodu, bio je inhalacija karbogena (95% O₂ i 5% CO₂, osam puta dnevno u trajanju od 30 min) i oralni prednizolon (100 mg u jednoj jutarnjoj dozi), sve u trajanju od sedam dana. S obzirom na retrospektivni pristup i nedostatak kontrolne grupe, nismo vrednovali uticaj terapije na ishod lečenja. Ipak, stepen oporavka u analiziranoj grupi bolesnika čini se nizak u poređenju sa drugim publikovanim rezultatima, bilo spontanog oporavka, bilo oporavka nakon lečenja. Rezultati naše studije ukazuju da je prosečni relativni oporavak sluha kod bolesnika oko 47%. Prosečno apsolutno poboljšanje sluha između inicijalnog i kontrolnog audiograma bilo je 15,1 dB. Weinaug⁹ publikuje spontani oporavak sluha bez terapije za akutnu naglupost od 25,6 dB i relativni oporavak sluha od 47%. Stepent spontanog oporavka sluha, definisan kao poboljšanje sluha za najmanje 30 dB, bio je 73% u studiji Mattoxa i Simmons⁵. Wilson i sar.¹ navode da 29 od 52 nelečena bolesnika dosegnu normalnu čujnost kod aficiranog uha (oko 56%). Prema ovim podacima iz literature, standardni protokol lečenja upotrebljen u analiziranom periodu nema značajan efekat na oporavak sluha. Ipak, ne može se zaključiti tako, zbog retrospektivne analize. Takođe, značajan uticaj su mogli imati i drugi faktori, kao što je selekcija grupe bolesnika koji su ispunjavali kriterijume za lečenje u hospitalnim uslovima.

Zbog nejasnoća u etiologiji i patogenezi akutne nagluposti, terapija je empirijska. Trenutno, nijedna studija ne daje jasno značajan efekat primenjene terapije koja bi nesumnjivo prešla stepent spontanog oporavka. Čini se da je osnova oboljenja multifaktorijalna etiopatogeneza, što rezultira u primeni mnogih terapijskih protokola, uključujući primenu vazodilatatora, antikoagulanata, kortikosteroida, vitamina, plazma ekspandera, histamina, antivirne terapije, kontrastnih sredstva, hiperbarične oksigenacije, ili oksigenacije karbogenom. Trenutno, većina studija podržava steroidnu terapiju u lečenju akutne nagluposti. Analizom svih objavljenih kliničkih randomiziranih studija o efektu steroida na lečenje akutne nagluposti, autori dolaze do zaključka da je malo pravih studija na tu temu, da je većina sa malim brojem bolesnika, te da se validan zaključak o vrednosti steroida i ne može dati¹⁰.

Zaključak

Odloženi početak terapije kod akutne sensorineuralne nagluposti nema uticaja na konačni oporavak sluha. Akutni gubitak sluha nije urgentno stanje i terapiju nije neophodno započeti u prva 24 h, već u prvih sedam dana.

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Simptomi, fizikalni nalaz i bronhijalna hipersenzitivnost kod bolesnika sa bronhijalnom astmom i normalnim spirometrijskim nalazom

Symptoms, physical findings and bronchial hypersensitivity in patients with bronchial asthma and normal spirometry

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Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Dijagnoza bronhijalne astme, hroničnog inflamatornog oboljenja disajnih puteva, postavlja se na osnovu anamneze, patološkog auskultatornog nalaza nad plućima, poremećaja plućne funkcije, kožnih testova i osnovnih pokazatelja imunološkog stanja u bronhijalnom stablu. Cilj rada bio je da se kod obolelih od bronhijalne astme sa normalnim spirometrijskim nalazom proceni međusobna povezanost objektivnih parametara bolesti, kao i njihova veza sa simptomima oboljenja. **Metode.** U studiju su bili uključeni bolesnici nepušači (60 mladih muškaraca), sa višegodišnjim simptomima bronhijalne astme kao što su gušenje, sviranje u grudima, otežano disanje, suv ili produktivan kašalj, zamaranje i noćno gušenje. Nije bilo simptoma ni znakova respiratorne infekcije tokom prethodna dva meseca i radiografija pluća i spirometrijski nalaz bili su normalni. Na osnovu rezultata nespecifičnog bronhoprovokacijskog testa formirane su dve grupe bolesnika: grupa I (30 bolesnika) sa pozitivnim histaminskim testom, prosečna vrednost koncentracije udahnutog histamina sa padom FEV1 za 20% u odnosu na početnu vrednost (PC20) bila $2,99 \pm 0,51$ mg/ml i grupa II (30 bolesnika) sa negativnim histaminskim testom (PC20(a) = $14,58 \pm 6,34$ mg/ml). **Rezultati.** Analizom rezultata spirometrije utvrđeno je da je postojala statistički značajna razlika vrednosti FEV1 među grupama: grupa I – FEV1 = 93,2%; grupa II – FEV1 = 101,8%; ($p < 0,05$, Wilcoxon's test), iako su sve vrednosti FEV1 bile u području referentnih. U zastupljenosti najčešćih simptoma nije bilo značajne razlike među grupama ($p > 0,05$, hi-kvadrat test). Patološki auskultatorni nalaz nad plućima postojao je kod 73,4% bolesnika u grupi I, a u grupi II kod 27,5% bolesnika ($p < 0,05$, hi-kvadrat test). Potvrđena je pozitivna korelacija između stepena hipersenzitivnosti i fizičkog nalaza na plućima ($p < 0,05$, Spearman-ov koeficijent korelacije) dok nije bilo korelacije sa vrednostima FEV1. **Zaključak:** Postoji povezanost patološkog auskultatornog nalaza nad plućima, nižih vrednosti FEV1 (u granicama referentnih vrednosti) i stepena nespecifične bronhijalne hipersenzitivnosti kao objektivnih pokazatelja aktivnosti bronhijalne astme. Nema korelacije tih parametara sa ispoljenim simptomima kao subjektivnim pokazateljima aktivnosti bronhijalne astme.

Ključne reči:

astma; dijagnoza; respiratorni znaci i simptomi; respiratorna funkcija, testovi; spirometrija; ekspiratorni volumen, forsirani; hipersenzibilnost, respiratorna.

Abstract

Background/Aim. The diagnosis of bronchial asthma, a chronic inflammatory disease of the respiratory tract, is made on the basis of anamnesis, pathologic auscultatory findings of the lungs, lung function disturbances, skin tests, as well as the basic indices of immunologic condition in bronchial trunk. The aim of the study was to find out correlation of objective indices of the disease and than relation with the symptoms in the patients with bronchial asthma. **Methods.** The study included 60 young male non smokers with long lasting symptoms of bronchial asthma including shortness of breath, wheezing, hard breathing, nonproductive or productive cough, weakness and night hard breathing. There were no symptoms of respiratory infection over the past two months and lung radiography and spirometry were normal. Based on the results of nonspecific bronchoprovocative test two groups of the patients were formed, group I (n = 30) with positive histamine test (average value of the inhaled histamine concentration with FEV1 drop by 20% in regard with the initial value (PC20) = 2.99 ± 0.51 mg/ml of histamine) and group II (n = 30) with negative histamine test (PC20(a) = 14.58 ± 6.34 mg/ml of histamine). **Results.** The obtained spirometry results revealed a statistically significant difference in values of FEV1 between groups: I group – FEV1 = 93.2%; II group – FEV1 = 101.8%; ($p < 0.05$, Wilcoxon test), although all the FEV1 values were normal. Regarding the presence of the most common symptoms there was not statistically significant difference between the groups ($p > 0.05$, chi-square test). Pathologic auscultatory lung findings were found in 73.4% of the patients in the group I and 27.5% of the patients in the group II. There was statistically significant difference ($p < 0.05$, chi-squared test). A positive correlation between the degree of hypersensitivity and lung physical findings was confirmed ($p < 0.05$ Spearman's rho), but there was no correlation with FEV1 values. **Conclusion.** There is a correlation with lung pathologic physical findings, lower values of FEV1 (in a range of normal values) and the degree of nonspecific bronchial sensitivity as objective indices of activity of bronchial asthma. There is no correlation of these parameters with patient's symptoms as subjective indices of bronchial asthma.

Key words:

asthma; diagnosis; signs and symptoms, respiratory; respiratory function tests; spirometry; forced expiratory volume; respiratory hypersensitivity.

Uvod

Bronhijalna astma je hronična inflamatorna bolest disajnih puteva koja se klinički odlikuje napadima otežanog disanja, posebno u fazi ekspirijuma, praćenim zviždanjem u grudima, kašljem i iskašljavanjem žilavog sekreta. Do tegoba dovodi promenljiva bronhoopstrukcija u čijoj osnovi je hiperreaktivnost disajnih puteva¹⁻⁴.

Dokazano je da u razvoju bronhijalne astme najveći značaj imaju hronična inflamacija bronhijalne sluznice u kojoj učestvuju brojne ćelije i medijatori i bronhijalna hiperreaktivnost^{1, 3-14}.

Dijagnoza bronhijalne astme postavlja se na osnovu anamneze, patološkog fizikalnog nalaza nad plućima, poremećaja plućne funkcije uzrokovano ograničenjem protoka vazduha, kožnih testova sa inhalacionim alergenima, i osnovnih pokazatelja imunološkog stanja u bronhijalnom stablu (broj eozinofilnih leukocita u perifernoj krvi, nivo imunoglobulina E u serumu i broj eozinofilnih leukocita u sputumu)^{4, 15-17}.

Mogući patofiziološki poremećaji u bronhijalnoj astmi su: regionalni poremećaji distribucije ventilacije, izražena hiperinflacija pluća, poremećen odnos ventilacije i perfuzije, a u odmakloj fazi alveolarna hipoventilacija sa poremećajem difuzije gasova, što može dovesti do plućne insuficijencije^{1, 2, 18-20}.

Bronhijalna astma odlikuje se promenljivom težinom kliničke slike u čijoj osnovi postoji varijabilna opstrukcija protoku vazduha u disajnim putevima. Varijabilnost je posledica prirode bolesti čiju osnovu takođe čini varijabilna hiperreaktivnost disajnih puteva uzrokovana hroničnom inflamacijom.

Testovi plućne funkcije u fazi ispoljene bolesti najčešće pokazuju poremećaje i služe u dijagnostici, proceni težine astme, proceni težine napada astme, proceni efekta terapije, kao i za praćenje bolesnika. Za verifikaciju ograničenja protoka vazduha u disajnim putevima najviše se koristi merenje plućne ventilacije spirometrijskim testom i određivanje vrednosti vršnog ekspirijumskog protoka – *Peak Expiratory Flow* (PEF)^{3, 4, 21, 22}.

Spirometrija je osnovni test kojim procenjujemo ventilaciju pluća kod bolesnika sa bronhijalnom astmom. Spirometrijom se mere: forsirani vitalni kapacitet (FVC), forsirani ekspirijumski volumen u prvoj sekundi (FEV1) i odnos forsiranog ekspirijumskog volumena u prvoj sekundi i forsiranog vitalnog kapaciteta ($FEV1/FVC \times 100$ – *Tiffneau* indeks). Dobijeni rezultati upoređuju se sa referentnim vrednostima.

U fazi aktivnosti bronhijalne astme spirometrijski se obično registruje opstrukcijski poremećaj ventilacije (smanjenje FEV1 i *Tiffneau* indeksa). Međutim, spirometrijski test je često i normalan kod bolesnika sa bronhijalnom astmom^{2-4, 21, 23, 24}.

Ukoliko testovi plućne funkcije ne pokazuju poremećaje koji bi potvrdili dijagnozu, a klinička slika ukazuje na astmu, vrši se bronhoprovokacijsko testiranje. Cilj testiranja je da se utvrdi da li postoji i kog je stepena hipersenzitivnost/hiperreaktivnost bronha^{25, 26}.

Dijagnoza bronhijalne astme, hroničnog inflamatornog oboljenja disajnih puteva, postavlja se na osnovu anamneze, patološkog auskultatornog nalaza nad plućima, poremećaja plućne funkcije, kožnih testova i osnovnih pokazatelja imunološkog stanja u bronhijalnom stablu. Cilj rada bio je da se kod obolelih od bronhijalne astme sa normalnim spirometrijskim nalazom proceni međusobna povezanost objektivnih parametara bolesti, kao i njihova veza sa simptomima oboljenja.

Metode

Studijom je bilo obuhvaćeno 60 bolesnika muškog pola, u dobi od 17 do 29 godina, nepušača, sa višegodišnjim simptomima kao što su gušenje, sviranje u grudima, otežano disanje, suv ili produktivan kašalj, zamaranje i noćno gušenje.

Svim bolesnicima, nakon uzimanja anamneze, fizičkog pregleda, kutanih proba sa inhalacionim alergenima i spirometrijskog testa, urađeno je bronhoprovokacijsko testiranje histaminom. Spirometrijski test rađen je na ekspiografu firme „Godart“ i „Jaegger“.

Po određivanju bazalnih vrednosti parametara plućne ventilacije bronhoprovokacijsko testiranje vršeno je kumulativnom tehnikom, a prag senzitivnosti označavan je sa PC20 što predstavlja koncentraciju udahnutog rastvora histamina nakon koje se beleži pad vrednosti FEV1 za 20%. Vrednost PC20 dobija se algoritamskom transformacijom iz rezultata merenja. Test je negativan kada je $PC20 \geq 8$ mg/ml histamina²⁷⁻²⁹.

Na osnovu rezultata nespecifičnog bronhoprovokacijskog testa formirane su dve grupe bolesnika: I grupa (30 bolesnika) sa pozitivnim histaminskim testom kojim je utvrđeno postojanje umerene hipersenzitivnosti bronhijalnog stabla, u kojoj je prosečna vrednost $PC20 = 2,99 \pm 0,51$ mg/ml histamina i grupa II (30 bolesnika) sa negativnim histaminskim testom ($PC20(a) = 14,58 \pm 6,34$ mg/ml histamina).

Tokom prethodna dva meseca bolesnici nisu imali simptome ni znake respiratorne infekcije, a radiografija pluća i spirometrijski nalaz bili su normalni ($FEV1$ i $FVC > 80\%$ vrednosti predviđenih normom).

Rezultati

Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u starosti bolesnika i dužini bolesti između grupe sa umerenim stepenom hipersenzitivnosti bronha i grupe sa negativnim nespecifičnim bronhoprovokacijskim testom sa histaminom (tabela 1).

U zastupljenosti najčešćih simptoma nije bilo značajne razlike među grupama ($p > 0,05$) (tabela 2).

Fizikalni nalaz nad plućima kod bolesnika obe grupe prikazan je u tabeli 3.

Analizom rezultata spirometrije utvrđeno je da su vrednosti FEV1 u grupi sa izraženom hipereaktivnošću bronha niže u apsolutnom iznosu, odnosno u procentu norme i da je ta razlika statistički značajna: FEV1 (grupa I) = 93,2%; FEV1 (grupa II) = 101,8%; ($p < 0,05$, *Wilcoxon* test), premda su sve vrednosti FEV1 u području referentnih (tabela 4).

Tabela 1
Demografske osobine bolesnika sa bronhijalnom astmom i pozitivnim (grupa I) i negativnim (grupa II) histaminskim testom

Parametri	grupa I (n = 30)	grupa II (n = 30)
Godine života [n(%)]		
17–20	13 (43,5)	26 (65)
21–25	13 (43,5)	8 (20)
26–29	4 (13)	6 (15)
Prosečna starost (god), $x \pm SD$	21,9 \pm 2,6	20,8 \pm 1,6
Trajanje bolesti (god), $x \pm SD$	11,2 \pm 2,3	8,2 \pm 2,2

Tabela 2
Simptomi astme kod bolesnika sa pozitivnim (grupa I) i negativnim (grupa II) histaminskim testom

Tegobe	grupa I	grupa II
	broj (%)	broj (%)
Gušenje	24 (80)	21 (52,5)
Suv kašalj	6 (20)	15 (37,5)
Sviranje u grudima	6 (20)	9 (22,5)
Produktivan kašalj	6 (20)	2 (5)
Otežano disanje	3 (10)	4 (10)
Zamaranje	3 (10)	2 (5)
Stežanje u grudima	3 (10)	6 (15)
Curenje nosa	3 (10)	6 (15)
Kijavica	3 (10)	13 (32,5)
Noćno gušenje	2 (6,6)	9 (22,5)
Crvenilo očiju	2 (6,6)	2 (5)
Svrab po koži	2 (6,6)	1 (2,5)

Tabela 3
Fizikalni nalaz nad plućima obolelih od astme sa pozitivnim (grupa I) i negativnim (grupa II) histaminskim testom

Fizikalni nalaz	Bolesnici	
	grupa I (n = 30)	grupa II (n = 30)*
	broj (%)	broj (%)
Uredan	8 (26,6)	22 (72,5)
Visokotonski zvižduci	9 (30)	1 (2,5)
Produžen ekspirijum	9 (30)	1 (2,5)
Oslabljeno disanje	5 (10,6)	
Polifoni zvižduci	3 (10)	1 (2,5)
Niskotonski zvižduci	3 (10)	1 (2,5)
Pooštreno disanje	4 (13)	7 (23)

* $p < 0,05$ vs grupa I (hi-kvadrat test)

Tabela 4
Plućna ventilacija obolelih od bronhijalne astme sa pozitivnim (grupa I) i negativnim (grupa II) histaminskim testom

Parametar	grupa I (n = 30)		grupa II (n = 30)	
	$x \pm SD$	% norme	$x \pm SD$	% norme
FVC [†] (L)	5,24 \pm 0,77	95,6	5,36 \pm 0,71	96,8
FEV1 [‡] (L)	4,35 \pm 0,94	93,2	4,67 \pm 0,71	101,8*
Tiffneau indeks (%)	83,65 \pm 5,79	96,1	86,7 \pm 5,73	104,5

* $p < 0,05$ vs grupa I (Wilcoxon test); [†]forsirani vitalni kapacitet; [‡]forsirani ekspirijumski volumen u prvoj sekundi

Patološki auskultatorni nalaz nad plućima postojao je kod 73,4% bolesnika u grupi I i kod 27,5% bolesnika u grupi II ($p < 0,05$).

Potvrđena je pozitivna korelacija između stepena hipersenzitivnosti i fizičkog nalaza nad plućima ($p < 0,05$, Spearman-ov koeficijent korelacije), ali nije postojala korelacija sa nižim vrednostima FEV1.

Diskusija

Hiperreaktivnost bronha osnovna je odlika bronhijalne astme i predstavlja pojačan odgovor bronha na različite endogene i egzogene stimulse koji se manifestuje sužavanjem lumena ili bronhokonstrikcijom. Hiperreaktivnost je uz inflamaciju i varijabilnost i jedan od osnovnih pojmova u defi-

niciji bronhijalne astme. Uzrok hiperreaktivnosti bronha nije u potpunosti razjašnjen^{4, 14, 26-30}.

Varijabilnost je razlog što se često kod bolesnika sa ispoljenim simptomima spirometrijskim testom ne registruju poremećaji plućne ventilacije.

Ako anamneza odgovara bronhijalnoj astmi, a testovi spirometrije su normalni, u cilju potvrde ili eventualnog isključivanja dijagnoze bronhijalne astme treba izvršiti ispitivanje bronhijalne hiperreaktivnosti^{3, 4, 31, 32}.

Kod svih ispitivanih bolesnika izvršeno je nespecifično bronhoprovokacijsko testiranje histaminom, koje je standardizovano^{33, 34}. Stepem dobijene nespecifične hipersenzitivnosti bio je kriterijum za randomizaciju. Analizom starosti i dužine trajanja tegoba utvrđeno je da se radilo o homogenim grupama bolesnika kojima je isključeno postojanje nekog drugog akutnog ili hroničnog oboljenja ili stanja koje je moglo dovesti do hiperreaktivnosti bronha³⁵⁻³⁷.

Analizom učestalosti najzastupljenijih simptoma koje su bolesnici navodili, kao što su gušenje, kašalj ili sindrom zahvaćenosti gornjih disajnih puteva, zapaženo je da je veća zastupljenost gušenja bila u grupi sa dokazanom hiperreaktivnošću, ali ni za jedan od simptoma nije nađena statistički značajna razlika po grupama. Noćno gušenje, kao važan pokazatelj težine astme, bilo je manje zastupljeno u grupi sa pozitivnim histaminskim testom, što je paradoksalno^{1, 4}.

U prvoj grupi bolesnika patološki nalaz nad plućima bio je zastupljen kod 73,4%, a u drugoj grupi kod 27,5% bolesnika i tu postoji statistički značajna razlika. Može se zaklju-

čiti da postoji povezanost između inicijalno utvrđenog stepena nespecifične hipersenzitivnosti bronha i zastupljenosti patološkog auskultatornog nalaza nad plućima u smislu pozitivne korelacije. Pozitivna korelacija u fizikalnom nalazu i odsustvo korelacije sa prikazom simptoma mogu se objasniti time što je fizikalni nalaz objektivniji parametar od subjektivnog osećaja bolesnika koji rezultira isticanjem pojedinih simptoma bolesti^{38, 39}.

Niže vrednosti FEV1 registrovane su u grupi sa dokazanom umerenom hipersenzitivnošću bronha i razlika prosečnih vrednosti je statistički značajna. Statističkom analizom nije potvrđeno postojanje korelacije nižih vrednosti FEV1 sa stepenom hipersenzitivnosti i kliničkim nalazom. Ipak, rezultati nam daju za pravo da u drugoj prilici činjenice posmatramo obrnutim redosledom, tj. da pretpostavimo da bolesnik sa karakterističnim simptomima oboljenja, patološkim fizikalnim nalazom nad plućima i nešto nižim vrednostima parametara plućne ventilacije ima i značajnu hiperreaktivnost bronha. To može biti značajno za dijagnostiku, terapijski pristup i praćenje bolesnika sa bronhijalnom astmom.

Zaključak

Postoji pozitivna međusobna korelacija patološkog auskultatornog nalaza nad plućima, stepena nespecifične bronhijalne hipersenzitivnosti i nižih vrednosti FEV1 (u granicama referentnih) kao objektivnih parametara bolesti ali nema korelacije tih parametara sa simptomima kod obolelih od bronhijalne astme.

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Effects of physical exercise on inflammatory parameters and risk for repeated acute coronary syndrome in patients with ischemic heart disease

Efekat fizičkog vežbanja na parametre inflamacije i rizik od relapsa akutnog koronarnog sindroma kod bolesnika sa ishemijskim oboljenjem srca

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Abstract

Background/Aim. Inflammation is an important factor in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis, and several markers of inflammation have been associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular events. Physical activity may lower the risk for coronary heart disease (CHD) by mitigating inflammation. The aim of this study was to investigate the effects of aerobic physical exercise on systemic inflammatory response in patients with stable coronary disease participating in a cardiovascular rehabilitation exercise program. **Methods.** Male ($n = 29$) and female ($n = 23$) patients with stable coronary heart disease were enrolled in this study. All the patients were divided into two groups: the group with regular aerobic physical training during cardiovascular rehabilitation program phase II for 3 weeks in our rehabilitation center and 3 weeks after that in their home setting, and sedentary lifestyle group. There were no significant differences in gender distribution among the analysed groups. Student's t -test showed no significant differences in average age, waist circumference (OS) and waist/hip ratio (WHR). **Results.** The degree of obesity was measured by BMI and there was a significant improvement in BMI in the patients who undertook 6-week physical training compared to the controls ($p < 0.05$). Physical training during 6-week appeared not to have any effects on leukocyte count and ICAM-1 levels compared to controls. Exercise induced reduction in plasma CRP levels by 23.72% ($p < 0.001$) and reduction in plasma VCAM-1 levels by 10.23%, ($p < 0.05$). **Conclusion.** Moderate aerobic exercise resulted in a significant reduction of inflammatory state by decreasing CRP and VCAM-1 levels with significant obesity reduction but without visceral obesity reduction. The obtained results indicate that regular physical activity is clinically desirable in primary and secondary prevention of coronary heart diseases.

Key words:

coronary disease; inflammation mediators; exercise therapy; treatment outcome; risk factors.

Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Inflamacija predstavlja važan patogenetski faktor u pojavi i progresiji ateroskleroze. Fizička aktivnost smanjuje rizik od pojave koronarne bolesti srca. Smatra se da je jedan od osnovnih mehanizama pozitivnog delovanja redukcija sistemskog inflamacijskog odgovora. Cilj rada bio je da se ispita efekat aerobnog fizičkog treninga umerenog intenziteta na inflamacijske pokazatelje kod bolesnika sa preležanim infarktom miokarda. **Metode.** U istraživanje je bio uključeno 52 bolesnika (29 muškaraca i 23 žene) sa stabilnom koronarnom bolešću koji su bili podeljeni na grupu sa redovnim fizičkim treningom u trajanju od šest nedelja i sedentarnu grupu. Bolesnici u ispitivanim grupama bili su slične starosti i bez značajnijih razlika u vrednostima obima struka i odnosa struk/kuk. Svi bolesnici uključeni u istraživanje imali su pozitivnu istoriju za postojanje preležanog infarkta miokarda, koronarne revascularizacije ili angiografske potvrde 50% stenozе jednog ili više koronarnih sudova. **Rezultati.** Stepен gojaznosti meren kroz BMI ukazuje na nešto manju gojaznost bolesnika koji su bili podvrgnuti fizičkom treningu. Nije nađena značajnija razlika u vrsti terapijskog rešavanja akutnog koronarnog sindroma. Broj leukocita i koncentracija ICAM-1 molekula nisu se razlikovali između ispitivanih grupa. Efekat fizičkog treninga ogleda se u značajnom smanjenju vrednosti hsCRP za 23,72% ($p < 0,01$) i redukciji koncentracije VCAM-1 molekula za 10,23% ($p < 0,05$). **Zaključak.** Aerobni fizički trening sa submaksimalnim opterećenjem dovodi do značajnog pada inflamacijskih markera CRP i VCAM, čak i bez značajnije redukcije telesne težine ili smanjenja visceralne gojaznosti. Svi ovi efekti fizičkog treninga imaju korisne efekte u redukciji kardiovaskularnog rizika od pojave nakanadnih koronarnih događaja i ukazuju da fizička aktivnost ima značajno mesto u primarnoj i sekundarnoj prevenciji koronarne bolesti.

Ključne reči:

koronarna bolest; zapaljenje, medijatori; lečenje vežbanjem; lečenje, ishod; faktori rizika

Introduction

Inflammation is an important factor in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis and several markers of inflammation have been associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular events^{1,2}. The acute phase reactant, C-reactive protein (CRP) is a sensitive marker of inflammation³. Researches have showed that elevated concentration of CRP is an independent prognostic factor for increased cardiovascular mortality and morbidity, as well as the occurrence of certain clinical manifestations of acute coronary syndrome in both genders⁴.

Physical activity may lower the risk of coronary heart disease. It is thought that one of the basic mechanisms of its favorable impact is the reduction of systemic inflammatory response⁵. Regular physical training can lower the values of CRP⁶. Smith et al.⁷ have reported that there was a CRP reduction trend after 6 months of physical training in persons at high risk of ischemic heart disease. This type of training produces similar tendency of reduction of inflammatory markers in healthy individuals as well⁶. Moreover, physical exercise is most important in the group of individuals at highest risk of coronary disease, since it has been demonstrated that physically active elderly men and women have lower CRP values compared to their less physically active peers⁸. Similar results have been obtained comparing active sportsmen to controls with similar body mass index and sedentary lifestyle⁹.

In addition to these inflammatory indices, significant effects of physical training have been described regarding the reduction of Intracellular Adhesion Molecule-1 (ICAM-1) molecule values and leukocyte count in diabetic individuals¹⁰. Alterations of Vascular Cell Adhesion Molecule-1 (VCAM-1) molecule values after physical exercise in patients with peripheral vascular disease have not been demonstrated; however, it should be mentioned that in animal models long-term training has significantly reduced the expression of P-selectin, VCAM-1, Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1 (MCP-1) and Inducible Nitric Oxide Synthase (iNOS) in both healthy and hypercholesterolemic animals^{11,12}.

In spite of the well known effects of aerobic physical training, the published data on its effect on the spectrum of inflammatory markers in individuals with coronary disease are scarce. The aim of this study was, therefore, to investigate the effect of aerobic physical training of moderate intensity on inflammatory indices in patients with stable coronary disease.

Methods

This study enrolled 52 patients with coronary disease treated at the Institute for Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation of Rheumatic and Cardiovascular Diseases in Niška Banja. All the patients were divided into two groups.

In the group I there were 22 patients with stable coronary disease and regular aerobic physical exercise within the program of cardiovascular rehabilitation during 3 weeks, continuing their training for further 3 weeks at home.

In the group II there were 30 patients with stable coronary disease who in the last 6 months did not have physical training recommended after their program of cardiovascular rehabilitation, except for usual household activities.

All the enrolled subjects had positive history of myocardial infarction, coronary revascularization or angiographic confirmation of 50% stenosis of one or more coronary vessels. Unsuitable for our study were those with arrhythmia, hypertension with systolic tension above 180 mmHg or diastolic below 100 mmHg, unstable angina pectoris, poorly controlled cardiac insufficiency, poor hemodynamic response or ischemic changes on ECG during phase 1 of ergotest (Bruce protocol), or some of the metabolic disorders (diabetes mellitus, hyperthyrosis).

During the study, the enrolled patients took regularly their usual medication, and the same refers to diets recommended during the program of cardiovascular rehabilitation. All the subjects used beta-blockers, ACE inhibitors and statins included in their therapy.

Physical training

The patients undertook regular aerobic physical training for 6 weeks, which consisted of continual aerobic exercise for 45 minutes on a treadmill, room bicycle or walking. The intensity of physical exercise was limited to the submaximal physical capacity at the level of 70-80% of maximal heart frequency at the stress test taken before cardiovascular rehabilitation.

Physical exercise was applied 3 times a week for 6 weeks.

Biochemical tests were done at the start and after 6 weeks' training and compared to the control group values. Blood samples in the group with physical training were taken 24 hours after the last physical training.

Blood pressure was measured by auscultation (sphygmomanometer, Becton Dickinson, USA) three times accordingly to American Heart Association procedure and the average values were adopted.

The methods to assess inflammatory risk factors involved leukocyte count determination with autoanalyzer for blood count Haematolog H1-Technicon. Highly sensitive C reactive protein (hsCRP) determination was done with commercial Dade Behring test on Dimension Expand analyzer. The values were expressed in mg/l. ELISA method and commercial Beckman Coulter Company test (Dual Monoclonal Antibody Sandwich Enzyme Immunoassay) on Bio Systems-elisa reader were employed to determine adhesive molecules ICAM-1 and VCAM-1. The results were expressed in ng/ml.

Anthropometric measurements

Body mass index (BMI) was determined on the occasion of blood sampling; waist circumference (WC) and waist/hip (W/H) ratio were the dimensions of interest. Obesity assessment was done complying with the recommendations of the American Association for Diabetes.

The data was processed using the standard descriptive statistic methods (mean value, standard deviation, percentage). The results were analyzed using the Student's *t*-test for

paired and unpaired samples, χ^2 test and Fisher test of exact probability, depending on the group size, type of variables and type of distribution.

Statistical processing was done in Excel 7.0 and SPSS 11.0 in Windows 98 settings, with results presented in tables and graphs.

Results

Our study enrolled 29 men and 23 women. Their basic characteristics are presented in Table 1.

hsCRP and concentration of VCAM-1 molecule ($p < 0.05$), which became significantly lower in this group compared to control ($p < 0.01$ and $p < 0.05$ prospective) (Table 3).

All examined inflammatory markers were reduced after 6 weeks' training, but only concentration of hsCRP VCAM-1 showed significant reduction ($p < 0.05$).

Discussion

The investigation initiated to examine the effect of aerobic physical training on the degree of inflammation and indices of endothelial function in patients with ischemic

Table 1

Patients characteristics			
	Exercise training group	Control group	<i>p</i>
Men/women (n)	12/10	17/13	NS
Age (yrs), $\bar{x} \pm SD$	62.7 \pm 7.1	58.4 \pm 7.6	NS
MI [n (%)]	15 (68)	21 (70)	NS
CAB [n (%)]	3 (14)	4 (13)	NS
PTCA [n (%)]	4 (18)	5 (17)	NS

The results are shown as averages \pm standard deviation; MI-myocardial infarct; CABG-coronary artery by pass grafting; PTCA-percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty; CAB – coronary artery bypass

Analysis demonstrated balanced gender distribution and similar average age in the studied groups of coronary patients. The chi-squared test indicated that there were no significant differences in therapeutic approaches to acute coronary syndrome.

Estimation of obesity and the characteristics of some cardiovascular markers before and after finishing of cardiovascular rehabilitation programme are summarized in Table 2.

Student's *t*-test demonstrated that investigated patients were without significant differences in WC, W/H ratio and dTA at start and at the end of observed period. Obesity, measured by way of BMI, was similar at the beginning of observed period, but after 6 weeks it was significantly lower in subjects who undertook physical training ($p < 0.05$) (Table 2).

heart disease on the program of cardiovascular rehabilitation confirmed the hypothesis that physical activity has favorable impact on the reduction of inflammatory indices and improvement of endothelial dysfunction. The studies comparing a wide spectrum of antiinflammatory indices and indices of endothelial function in patients in the physical training programs compared to physically inactive coronary disease patients are very rare in the relevant literature.

In this study there were no differences in gender distribution, age, type of obesity and therapeutic approaches to coronary disease between the groups of patients on physical training and sedentary controls (Table 1).

The effect of 6 weeks' physical exercise is evident in a significant reduction of obesity measured as BMI, but without

Table 2

Influence of exercise training on obesity and arterial blood pressure

	Exercise training group		Control group	
	before	after	before	after
BMI (kg/m ²)	29.3 \pm 3.2	26.9 \pm 3.6*†	29.1 \pm 2.7	28.5 \pm 2.76
WC (cm)	102.8 \pm 4.7	101 \pm 5.42	101.9 \pm 5.2	103.16 \pm 6.04
W/H ratio	0.98 \pm 0.06	0.97 \pm 0.07	0.97 \pm 0.06	0.99 \pm 0.06
sTA (mmHg)	144.7 \pm 5.8	136.1 \pm 4.3†	139.1 \pm 4.9	135 \pm 6.4
dTA (mmHg)	90.1 \pm 6.7	86.8 \pm 5.2	87.7 \pm 6.5	85.2 \pm 8.3

The results are shown as averages \pm standard deviation; BMI-body mass index; WC-waist circumference; W/H – waist/hip; sTA-sistolic blood pressure; dTA diastolic blood pressure; * $p < 0.05$ vs. control; † $p < 0.05$ vs. starting values

The characteristics of inflammatory response before and after physical exercise were examined by way of leukocyte counts, concentration of hsCRP and serum concentration of adhesion molecules (VCAM-1 i ICAM-1). The results are summarized in Table 3.

Leukocyte counts and concentrations of ICAM-1 molecule did not differ between the studied groups. The effects of physical exercise were reflected in a significant reduction of

any important impact on visceral obesity (Table 2). This is important effect because obesity and visceral obesity correlated with many inflammatory markers¹³ and are frequently associated with lipid disorders, hypertension, insulin resistance and coronary artery disease.¹⁴

In the patients with clinically evident atherosclerosis and confirmed coronary heart disease, CRP values before and after the observed period are significantly higher than

those in healthy population (the average value in men in general population is 0.93 mg/l¹⁵). This study demonstrated that physical training and improvement of aerobic capacity in coronary disease patients was followed by the proportional reduction of plasmatic concentration of hsCRP and VCAM-1 molecule, while ICAM-1 and leukocyte count remained unchanged (Table 3).

scribed¹⁰, this effect was not observed in the group of non-diabetic patients in our study (Table 3). Some authors have not observed changes in VCAM-1 molecules after physical training in patients with peripheral vascular disease¹¹; in animal models long-term training has significantly reduced the expression of P-selectin, VCAM-1, MCP-1 and iNOS both in healthy and in hypocholesterolemic animals¹².

Influence of exercise training of inflammatory markers

Table 3

Inflammatory markers	Exercise training group			Control group		
	before	after	Δ (%)	before	after	Δ (%)
Leukocyte count (×10 ⁹ /l)	6.9 ± 1.7	6.23 ± 1.87	-9.7	6.5 ± 1.9	6.32 ± 1.33	-2.8
hsCRP (mg/l)	5.2 ± 3.1	3.89 ± 2.85**†	-25.2	4.9 ± 2.9	5.1 ± 3.2	+4.1
VCAM-1 (ng/ml)	11.1 ± 2.2	9.3 ± 1.21*†	-16.2	10.8 ± 3.5	10.36 ± 3.67	-4.1
ICAM-1 (ng/ml)	7.8 ± 1.56	7.48 ± 1.35	-4.1	7.2 ± 4.3	7.5 ± 6.03	+4.2

The results are shown as averages ± standard deviation; hsCRP – Highly sensitive C reactive protein; VCAM-1 – Vascular Cell Adhesion Molecule-1; ICAM-1 – Intracellular Adhesion Molecule-1; **p* < 0.05, ***p* < 0.01 vs. control; †*p* < 0.05 vs. starting values in the same group

Physical activity exerts its cardioprotective effects most commonly via a large number of mechanisms, including obesity reduction, blood pressure reduction, reduction of the risk and incidence of diabetes mellitus type 2, correction of dyslipidemia and improvement of insulin sensitivity and glycoregulation, improvement of fibrinolysis and endothelial function⁵. Association of physical exercise with lowered level of inflammation and hsCRP can be an additional protective mechanism.

It is well known that high CRP levels are associated with an increased risk for subsequent cardiovascular events, and the results which reflect its reduction after long-term aerobic physical training stress the importance of this treatment modality in coronary disease patients with associated risk factors such as diabetes mellitus⁴.

The exact pathway by which increased physical activity induces CRP reduction has not been elucidated yet, but numerous cross-sectional studies and interventional studies have demonstrated the trend^{6,16}. Potential mechanisms responsible for this effect of physical training could involve the reduced values of interleukins after repeated trainings, responsible for CRP reduction¹⁷. One of the main interleukins responsible in this regard is IL-6, a proinflammatory cytokine secreted by fat tissue which stimulates hepatic CRP synthesis. However, numerous studies demonstrate that after obesity correction, the association of training with low CRP persists, suggesting that some other unknown mechanisms are involved in CRP reduction either via IL-6, or they directly induce reduced CRP production in the liver^{6,8,9}.

Although some significant effects of physical training on the reduction of ICAM-1 molecules in diabetics have been de-

duced after a moderate 6-weeks aerobic physical training. The significance of this finding lies in the fact that although ICAM-1 and VCAM-1 share some structural and functional similarities, in patients with well developed atherosclerotic disease ICAM-1 concentration in the plasma is principally a generalized inflammation marker, while VCAM-1 molecule concentration is an indicator of atheromatous plaque activity or a sign of endothelial dysfunction¹⁸. In that regard, the effect of training on VCAM-1 levels is of enormous importance in view of the reduction of risk for subsequent coronary events caused by destabilization or rupture of the plaque fibrous cap, especially if we are aware of its effect on the degree of oxidative stress¹⁹. It should be noted that our results support the findings that reduced inflammation and oxidative stress represent the best way to reduce the risk of acute coronary syndrome²⁰.

Conclusion

Aerobic physical training with submaximal workload during 6 weeks induces significant reduction of inflammatory markers CRP and VCAM, with significant reduction of general obesity and without changes in visceral obesity.

All these effects of physical training are beneficial regarding the reduction of cardiovascular risk for subsequent coronary events.

The results of this study suggest that physical exercise could have an important place in primary and secondary prevention of coronary disease.

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Ispitivanje osetljivosti na antibiotike *Campylobacter jejuni* i *C. coli* izolovanih iz ljudi

Determination of sensitivity to antibiotics of *Campylobacter jejuni* and *Campylobacter coli* isolated from human feces

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Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Jedna od najznačajnijih bakterijskih zoonoza je kampilobakterioza. Oboljenja ljudi najčešće izazivaju termofilne kampilobakterije: *Campylobacter jejuni* (*C. jejuni*), *Campylobacter coli* (*C. coli*), *Campylobacter lari* (*C. lari*), *Campylobacter upsaliensis* (*C. upsaliensis*). Kampilobakterioza je bolest blagog toka i uglavnom spontano prolazi. Kod bolesnika sa težom kliničkom slikom i prolongiranom bolešću preporučuje se antibiotski tretman. U poslednje vreme zabrinjava porast rezistencije bakterija iz roda *Campylobacter* na antibiotike koji se najčešće koriste za lečenje kampilobakterioze ljudi. Pojava rezistentnih sojeva koincidira sa početkom korišćenja antibiotika, posebno hinolona u veterinarskoj medicini. Cilj rada bio je izolacija i identifikacija sojeva termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta iz fecesa ljudi i ispitivanje njihove osetljivosti na antibiotike i hemioterapeutike koji se najčešće koriste za lečenje kampilobakterioze. **Metode.** Ispitivana je osetljivost na eritromicin, tetraciklin, ampicilin, hloramfenikol i ciprofloksacin 24 soja kampilobakterija izolovana iz fecesa ljudi, primenom E-testa. **Rezultati.** Ispitivano je 17 sojeva *C. jejuni* i sedam sojeva *C. coli*. Od 24 ispitivana soja *C. jejuni* i *C. coli*, šest sojeva (25%) bilo je rezistentno na ampicilin, a sedam sojeva (29,2%) na tetraciklin. Od ispitivanih sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli*, 12 sojeva (50%) bilo je rezistentno na ciprofloksacin. Rezistentnija vrsta bila je *C. jejuni* (52,9%). Četiri soja (23,5%) *C. jejuni* bila su rezistentna na eritromicin, a 11,7% sojeva na hloramfenikol. Nijedan ispitivani soj *C. coli* nije bio rezistentan na hloramfenikol, niti na eritromicin. **Zaključak.** Ispitivanjem osetljivosti na eritromicin, tetraciklin, ampicilin, hloramfenikol i ciprofloksacin sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* izolovanih iz ljudi ustanovljen je relativno visok procenat rezistentnih sojeva, posebno onih od *C. jejuni*.

Ključne reči:

campylobacter; ljudi; antibiotici; lekovi, rezistencija; veterina.

Abstract

Background/Aim. One of the most important bacterial zoonosis is campylobacteriosis. Human disease is mostly caused by thermophilic *Campylobacter* spp: *Campylobacter jejuni* (*C. jejuni*), *Campylobacter coli* (*C. coli*), *Campylobacter lari* (*C. lari*) and *Campylobacter upsaliensis* (*C. upsaliensis*). Campylobacteriosis is a mild and self-healing disorder. In patients with more severe and prolonged forms, an antibiotic treatment is recommended. Recommended drugs are erythromycin, ciprofloxacin, tetracyclin, chloramphenicol and ampicillin. Lately, an increase of *Campylobacter* genus resistance to antibiotics mostly used in therapy is an annoying evidence. The rise coincided with the beginning of antibiotic use, especially quinolones, in veterinary medicine. The aim of the study was to isolate and identify thermophilic *Campylobacter* spp. from human feces and to determine their sensitivity to antibiotics and hemotherapeutics mostly used in campylobacteriosis treatment. **Methods.** Sensitivity to erythromycin, tetracyclin, ampicillin, chloramphenicol and ciprofloxacin of 24 strains of *Campylobacter* spp. isolated from humans was investigated by E-test. **Results.** Seventeen *C. jejuni* and seven *C. coli* strains were investigated. Six (25%) out of 24 *C. jejuni* and *C. coli* investigated strains were resistant to ampicillin and seven (29.2%) were resistant to tetracycline. Twelve (50%) *C. jejuni* and *C. coli* investigated strains were resistant to ciprofloxacin. *C. jejuni* was more resistant (52.9%). Four (23.5%) *C. jejuni* strains were resistant to erythromycin and 11.7% to chloramphenicol. None of *C. coli* strains were resistant to both chloramphenicol and erythromycin. **Conclusions.** Testing sensitivity to erythromycin, tetracycline, ampicillin, chloramphenicol and ciprofloxacin demonstrated a rather high resistance frequency of *C. jejuni* and *C. coli* strains isolated from humans. *C. jejuni* strains were more resistant than those of *C. coli*.

Key words:

campylobacter; humans; anti-bacterial agents; drug resistance; veterinary medicine.

Uvod

Jedna od najznačajnijih bakterijskih zoonoza je kampilobakterioza. U rodu *Campylobacter* nalazi se 18 vrsta, a oboljenja ljudi najčešće izazivaju termofilne kampilobakterije *C. jejuni*, *C. coli*, *C. lari*, *C. upsaliensis*.

Životinje retko obole ili obole sa blagim simptomima bolesti, ali su značajan rezervoar uzročnika za ljude.

C. jejuni i *C. coli* najvažniji su uzročnici bakterijskih crevnih infekcija u savremenom svetu sa 400 000 000 obolelih svake godine. Značajan faktor za nastanak oboljenja ljudi od crevne kampilobakterioze je niska infektivna doza od samo 500 mikroorganizama¹.

Termofilne *Campylobacter* vrste mogu izazvati i ekstraintestinalne oblike bolesti².

Sekundarna oboljenja, kao posledica primarne infekcije izazvane termofilnim *Campylobacter* vrstama su *Guillain-Barré* sindrom (GBS) i *Reiterov* sindrom^{3,4}.

Kampilobakterioza bolest je blagog toka i uglavnom spontano prolazi. Kod bolesnika sa težom kliničkom slikom i prolongiranom bolešću preporučuje se antibiotski tretman⁵. Lekovi izbora su eritromicin, ciprofloksacin, tetraciklin, hloramfenikol i ampicilin.

U poslednje vreme zabrinjava porast rezistencije bakterija iz roda *Campylobacter* na antibiotike koji se najčešće koriste za lečenje kampilobakterioze ljudi. Pojava rezistentnih sojeva koincidira sa početkom korišćenja antibiotika, posebno hinolona u veterinarskoj medicini⁵⁻⁸.

Cilj rada bio je izolacija i identifikacija sojeva termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta iz fecesa ljudi i ispitivanje njihove osetljivosti na antibiotike koji se najčešće koriste za lečenje kampilobakterioze – eritromicin, ciprofloksacin, tetraciklin, hloramfenikol i ampicilin.

Metode

Ispitana su ukupno 24 soja termofilnih bakterija koje su izolovane iz fecesa obolelih ljudi u Institutu za javno zdravlje, Niš. Sojevi su izloveni u periodu od druge polovine 2004. do prve polovine 2005. godine. Duplikati nisu testirani zato što su sojevi praćeni prema imenu bolesnika u skladu sa laboratorijskim protokolom. Sojevi su izolovani tako što je uzorkovani materijal zasejavan na *Skirrow* agar sa razređenjem da se dobiju pojedinačne kolonije. Ploče su ubačene u lonce za anaerobe; mikroaerofilna atmosfera je stvorena pomoću *Campy Pack*, BBL kesica. Ploče su inkubirane mikroaerofilno na temperaturi od 42° C, u trajanju od 48 sati.

Porasle kolonije nakon inkubiranja pregledane su makroskopski i od njih su pripremani mikroskopski preparati i bojeni 2% karbol-fuksinom. Radi dobijanja čistih kultura termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta vršena su presejavanja pojedinačnih kolonija na krvni agar.

Dobijeni izolati čuvani su za dalja ispitivanja u moždanosćanom infuznom bujonu (BHI) sa 30% glicerola na temperaturi od -70° C⁹.

Dobijeni izolati identifikovani su klasičnim i komercijalnim biohemijskim testovima. Od klasičnih biohemijskih

testova korišćeni su katalaza test, oksidaza test, hidroliza hipurata, hidroliza indoksil acetata, brzi H₂S test, test osetljivosti na cefalotin i nalidiksinsku kiselinu.

Krajnja identifikacija sojeva *Campylobacter* vrste vršena je pomoću automatskog identifikacionog sistema API *Campy*, proizvođača Bio *Mérieux* (Francuska), po uputstvu proizvođača⁹.

Ispitivanje osetljivosti na antibiotike termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta vršeno je primenom E-testa. E-test je difuzioni test za određivanje minimalnih inhibitornih koncentracija (MIC) antibiotika za bakterije koje se ispituju. Pojedinačne kolonije izraslih bakterija sa krvne ploče suspendovane su u 4 ml *Mueller Hinton* bujona radi dobijanja suspenzije koja po gustini odgovara standardu 1 po *McFarland* skali. Zasejavanje pripremljene suspenzije ispitivanih sojeva bakterija na *Mueller Hinton* agar sa 5% defibrinisane ovčije krvi vršeno je pomoću sterilnog brisa. Nakon sušenja ploča u trajanju od dva minuta, nanošene su E-test trake (AB Biodisk, *Solna, Sweden*) na koje je nanešen antibiotik u koncentracijama od najniže ka najvišoj. Ploče su inkubisane 48 sati na temperaturi od 37° C mikroaerofilno, a nakon toga su očitavane vrednosti MIC. Za minimalnu inhibitornu koncentraciju antimikrobnog sredstva uzimana je ona u kojoj porast kulture preseca površinu trake impregnisan sa ispitujućim antibiotikom određene koncentracije. Za granične vrednosti korišćene su preporuke koje su dobijene od proizvođača E-test traka.

Za proveru svih navedenih metoda i kvaliteta podloga korišćeni su i referentni sojevi *C. jejuni* ATCC–33560 i *C. coli* ATCC–33559.

U tekstu i tabelama korišćeni su uobičajeni parametri deskriptivne statistike (apsolutne vrednosti, srednje vrednosti i frekvencije pojedinih obeležja izražene u procentima). Za poređenje dobijenih rezultata u zavisnosti od porekla izolovanih sojeva *Campylobacter* vrsta korišćen je Fišerov test (tabele kontingencije 2 × 2).

Rezultati

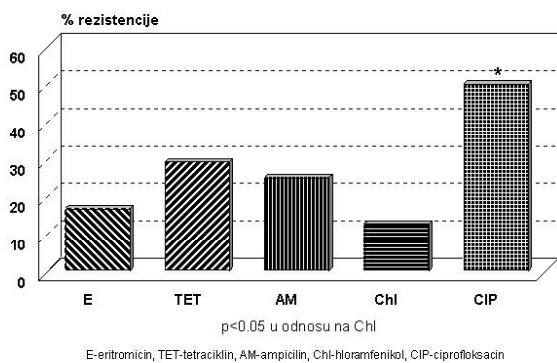
Ispitana je osetljivost 24 soja termofilnih *Campylobacter* sojeva poreklom od ljudi na eritromicin (E), tetraciklin (TET), ampicilin (AM), hloramfenikol (CHI) i ciprofloksacin (CIP). Iz fecesa ljudi izolovano je 17 sojeva *C. jejuni* i sedam sojeva *C. coli*⁹. Rezultati ispitivanja osetljivosti na antibiotike izolovanih sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* prikazani su tabelarno.

Od 17 ispitivanih sojeva *C. jejuni*, četiri soja (23,5%) bila su rezistentna na eritromicin (tabela 1). Ukupno sedam sojeva (29,2%) *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* bilo je rezistentno na tetraciklin (slika 1). Od 24 ispitivana soja *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* šest sojeva (25%) bilo je rezistentno na ampicilin (slika 1).

Ispitujući osetljivost sojeva *C. jejuni* na hloramfenikol ustanovljena je rezistencija kod 17,7% sojeva (tabela 1). Nijedan ispitivani soj *C. coli* nije bio rezistentan na hloramfenikol kao ni na eritromicin (tabela 1). Od ispitivanih sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* 12 sojeva (50%) bilo je rezistentno na ciprofloksacin (slika 1).

Tabela 1
Minimalne inhibitorne koncentracije (MIC) antibiotika ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) za *Campylobacter jejuni* (17 izolata) i *C. coli* (7 izolata) poreklom od ljudi primenom E-testa

Antibiotik	MIC opseg		MIC 50		MIC 90		Rezistentni sojevi (%)	
	<i>C. jejuni</i>	<i>C. coli</i>	<i>C. jejuni</i>	<i>C. coli</i>	<i>C. jejuni</i>	<i>C. coli</i>	<i>C. jejuni</i>	<i>C. coli</i>
Eritromicin	0,016 – >256	0,016 – 0,50	0,25	0,25	>256	0,50	23,5	0
Tetraciklin	0,016 – >256	0,032 – >256	0,16	0,25	>256	>256	29,4	28,6
Ampicilin	0,016 – >256	$\leq 0,16$ – >256	12	6	>256	16	29,4	14,3
Hloramfenikol	0,016 – >256	0,038 – 3	1,5	1,5	4	2	17,7	0
Ciprofloksacin	0,016 – >32	0,032 – >32	0,25	0,25	>32	>32	52,9	42,9



Sl. 1 – Prevalencija rezistencije izražena u procentima na osnovu vrednosti minimalnih inhibitornih koncentracija (MIC) ispitivanih antibiotika za *Campylobacter* vrste dobijenih primenom E-testa

Diskusija

U svetu primetan je stalan trend porasta rezistencije na najčešće korišćene antibiotike u kliničkoj praksi posebno na fluorohinolone. U Holandiji je enrofloksacin odobren za upotrebu u veterini 1987. godine. Godine 1998. bilo je već 8% rezistentnih sojeva *C. jejuni/coli* poreklom iz ljudi, 1989. godine 11% i 1997. godine 29%. Sličan trend zabeležen je i u Austriji, Danskoj, Finskoj, Francuskoj, Italiji, Španiji, Tajlandu, Velikoj Britaniji i SAD⁵. U Grčkoj, u periodu od 1987. do 1988. godine nije bilo rezistencije na hinolone. U drugom periodu, od 1998. do 2000. zabeleženo je već 30,65% termofilnih kampilobakterija rezistentnih na ciprofloksacin¹⁰.

Visok nivo rezistencije na ciprofloksacin (71,4%) zabeležen je kod sojeva *C. jejuni/coli* u Indiji i to kod dece u ruralnoj sredini¹¹. Takođe, visok nivo rezistencije na ciprofloksacin zabeležen je i u Španiji. Tako, 75% sojeva *C. jejuni* i 70,7% sojeva *C. coli* bilo je rezistentno na ovaj antibiotik¹².

Rezistencija na tetraciklin kod ispitivanih sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* iznosila je 29,2%. Naši rezultati su saglasni sa rezultatima ispitivanja rezistencije drugih autora^{13,14}. Rezistencija na tetracikline pripisuje se njihovoj nekontrolisanoj primeni u veterinarskoj medicini kao promotera rasta, u pro-

filaktičke i terapijske svrhe¹⁵. Tetraciklini se nekontrolisano koriste i u humanoj medicini.

Rezistencija na eritromicin kod ispitivanih sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* dobijena u našem istraživanju iznosila je 29,2%. Primetan je trend porasta rezistencije i na eritromicin. Tako, u Kanadi, 1998. godine bilo je 3% rezistentnih sojeva *C. jejuni/coli*, a 2001. godine 12%¹⁶. U Nemačkoj 1991. godine bilo je 7,1% *C. coli* rezistentnih na eritromicin, a 2001. godine 29,4%¹⁷. Trend porasta rezistencije na eritromicin zabeležili su i autori u Severnoj Irskoj od 0,6% 1996. godine do 4,2% 2000. godine¹⁸. Ovaj podatak zabrinjava jer je eritromicin lek prvog izbora u lečenju kampilobakterioze.

Rezistencija na hloramfenikol kod termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta iznosila je 12,5%. Naši rezultati nisu saglasni sa rezultatima drugih autora koji navode da je samo 2% sojeva termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta ispoljilo rezistenciju na hloramfenikol. Rezistencija nije zabeležena kod sojeva *C. jejuni/coli* u SAD i Turskoj¹⁹⁻²². Ovu pojavu tumačimo činjenicom da se hloramfenikol u svetu restriktivno koristi i u humanoj i u veterinarskoj medicini, kao i transferom gena rezistencije u prirodi.

Deepika i sar.¹¹ izveštavaju o visokom procentu termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta, izolovanih od dece u ruralnoj sredini, rezistentnih na ampicilin (81,6%). Visok nivo rezistencije na ampicilin (čak 97%), registrovan je kod termofilnih *Campylobacter* vrsta u Australiji, ako je osetljivost ispitivana primenom disk difuzione metode. Primenom E-testa procenat rezistentnih sojeva iznosio je 67%²³. Dodatak inhibitora beta laktamaze ampicilinu (ampicilin/sulbaktam) imao je za posledicu relativno nizak nivo rezistencije *C. jejuni/coli* na ovaj antibiotik kod ljudi u Bugarskoj¹³.

Zaključak

Ispitivanjem osetljivosti na eritromicin, tetraciklin, ampicilin, hloramfenikol i ciprofloksacin sojeva *C. jejuni* i *C. coli* ustanovljen je relativno visok procenat rezistentnih sojeva.

Procenat rezistentnih sojeva *Campylobacter* vrsta dobijen u ovom istraživanju saglasan je sa rezultatima koje navode mnogi autori u svetu.

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Značaj zakonskih propisa za racionalnu primenu biljnih lekova

Significance of herbal drugs legislation for their rational use

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Ključne reči:

fitoterapija; zakonodavstvo; kontrola kvaliteta; farmakopeje; lekovi, kliničko ispitivanje.

Key words:

phytotherapy; legislation; quality control; pharmacopoeias; drug evaluation.

Uvod

Upotreba lekovitih biljaka našla je svoje mesto i u savremenoj terapiji. Izraz „racionalna fitoterapija“, koji se sve češće susreće podrazumeva korišćenje biljnih proizvoda koji su formulisani, proizvedeni i stavljeni u promet na osnovu eksperimentalno i/ili klinički potvrđene efikasnosti i bezbednosti primene¹.

Racionalna fitoterapija, kao savremeni pristup, nije u suprotnosti sa tradicionalnim biljnim lečenjem, već često proističe iz njega. U tradicionalnom lečenju lekovitim biljem, u zavisnosti od podneblja primene, susreću se različiti pogledi. Holistički pristup, posebno uočljiv u tradicionalnoj kineskoj i indijskoj medicini, podrazumeva da jedna biljka ispoljava dejstvo na organizam u celini. Kako se ljudski organizam smatra celinom, shodno tome celina je i biljka kojom se koriguje eventualno narušena ravnoteža u zdravlju. Primer su monografije lekovitih biljaka Indijske farmakopeje koje pri opisivanju karakteristika jedne biljke navode više njenih različitih delovanja na različite organe u organizmu, koje navedena biljka može da ispolji u zavisnosti od načina kombinovanja sa drugim biljkama. U zemljama Zapadne Evrope, pak, češće je u upotrebi biljni preparat napravljen od jedne biljke ili njenog ekstrakta sa namerom da se postigne efekat na ciljnom organu. Ukoliko se koriste kombinacije lekovitog bilja u jednom biljnom preparatu ovaj cilj se postiže tako što se izabere više različitih biljaka koje istovremeno deluju na oboleli organ.

Bilo da je reč o racionalnoj fitoterapiji ili tradicionalnom lečenju lekovitim biljem u upotrebi su često identični termini. Tradicionalnu upotrebu lekovitog bilja npr. često nazivaju fitoterapijom, dok se, s druge strane, naučni podaci o lekovitom bilju često koriste za opravdanje ili potvrdu njegove tradicionalne upotrebe. U oblast biljnih lekova grubo se svrstavaju i homeopatski lekovi. Međutim izrazi „biljni“ i „homeopatski“ lek nisu sinonimi. Biljni lek se izrađuje od

svežeg ili suvog biljnog materijala ili ekstrakta nekog dela biljke i koristi se za prevenciju ili suzbijanje jasno određenih simptoma po čemu on liči na konvencionalni lek. Homeopatski lek sadrži minimalne količine susptancije koja bi u većoj dozi kod zdravog čoveka izazvala simptome nalik onima koje taj lek može da suzbije. Za razliku od biljnog, homeopatski lek deluje na organizam kao celinu (psihički, fizički i emocionalno), a izrađuje se drugačije od biljnog leka. Iako mnogi homeopatski lekovi potiču od biljnih sirovina, oni ne spadaju u biljne lekove, jer se homeopatski lekovi prave i od drugih sirovina (mineralnih i životinjskih) posebnom tehnologijom razblaživanja početne supstancije.

Prema podacima Svetske zdravstvene organizacije (SZO) preparate na bazi lekovitog bilja koristi 80% svetskog stanovništva. Medicinska primena lekovitog bilja u Evropi ima dugu tradiciju, dok u nekim delovima sveta (npr. Kina, Indija) biljni lekovi još uvek predstavljaju centralnu kariku u lancu zdravstvenih usluga².

Institucije koje regulišu biljne lekove na tržištu Evrope i SAD

Biljni lekovi prisutni su na tržištu svih zemalja u Evropi, iako se veličina tržišta razlikuje u svakoj od zemalja. Zbog velikih razlika u klasifikaciji biljnih proizvoda među zemljama članicama Evropske unije (EU), zakonski propisi za ove preparate postali su prioritet za EU krajem 80-tih godina. Naime, neujednačenost kriterijuma za klasifikaciju biljnih proizvoda dovela je do toga da su oni u nekim zemljama članicama bili prisutni kao medicinski preparati sa definisanim terapijskim dejstvom, u drugim registrovani kao dijetetski preparati bez posebnih terapijskih indikacija, a u trećim kao biljni suplementi sa terapijskim dejstvom. Da bi se ovaj problem rešio 1989. godine oformljeno je udruženje pod nazivom Evropsko naučno udruženje za fitoterapiju (*European Scientific Cooperative on Phytotherapy – ESCOP*), sa

ciljem da se postave zajednički kriterijumi za klasifikaciju biljnih lekova, da se podstaknu naučna istraživanja u domenu lekovitog bilja i da se doprinese institucionalizovanom prihvatanju fitoterapije u Evropi³. *European Scientific Cooperative on Phytotherapy* osnovalo je šest nacionalnih naučnih organizacija sa namerom da se fitoterapijske organizacije objedine na evropskom nivou. Danas u sastav ESCOP-a ulazi 13 nacionalnih udruženja iz Evrope, kao i Američki botanički savet (*American Botanical Council*). Jedan od osnovnih zadataka postavljenih pred ESCOP bio je sakupljanje svih naučnih podataka o jednoj biljnoj vrsti ili drogi, uključujući i predkliničke i kliničke studije. *European Scientific Cooperative on Phytotherapy* je to realizovao objavljivanjem 80 monografija za pojedinačne biljne droge⁴. Dodatno, 1997. godine osnovana je i radna grupa pod nazivom *Working Group on Herbal Medicinal Products* (HMPWG) na inicijativu Evropskog saveta i sadašnje Evropske agencije za lekove (bivše Evropske agencije za evaluaciju lekova – EMEA). Ova grupa značajno se oslonila na monografije ESCOP-a u stvaranju formata Evropskog zaključka o karakteristikama proizvoda (*European Summary of Product Characteristics – SPC*). Ovu radnu grupu danas je nasledio Komitet za biljne lekove (*Herbal Medicinal Product Committee – HMPC*) i on nastavlja saradnju sa ESCOP-om⁵.

U skladu sa direktivom Evropskog saveta koja definiše medicinski proizvod (Direktiva 2001/83/EEC), svaki biljni preparat koji ispunjava kriterijume ove direktive smatra se medicinskim proizvodom i podleže istim propisima kao i drugi medicinski proizvodi⁶.

Posebna Evropska direktiva koja se odnosi na tradicionalne biljne preparate stupila je na snagu u aprilu 2004. godine sa zahtevom da je zemlje članice uvrste u svoje pravilnike za registraciju proizvoda do oktobra 2005 (*Council Directive 2004/24/EC*)⁷. Ovom direktivom zahteva se da se pri registraciji tradicionalnih biljnih preparata zadovolje specifični standardi koji se odnose na kvalitet i sigurnost njihove humane upotrebe. Preporuka ove direktive je da takvi registrovani preparati budu pogodni za upotrebu bez lekarskog recepta. Pored uobičajenih zahteva za registrovanje (GMP potvrda), novinu u odnosu na prethodnu direktivu predstavlja i zahtev za dokazanom tradicionalnom upotrebom u periodu od 30 godina za datu indikaciju, od kojih najmanje 15 mora biti na teritoriji Evropske unije, kao i poseban izveštaj o bezbednosti upotrebe biljnog preparata za datu indikaciju. Sa druge strane, od proizvođača se zahteva da obezbede sistem za praćenje podataka o neželjenim dejstvima o kojima bi se izveštaji dostavljali nacionalnim regulatornim institucijama.

Ovom direktivom ustanovljen je i sadašnji Komitet za biljne proizvode (*Herbal Medicinal Product Committee – HMPC*) sa osnovnom namerom da pripremi detaljno obrađene monografije i listu biljnih supstancije i preparata koji su u medicinskoj upotrebi dovoljno dugo vremena da se njihova upotreba smatra bezbednom u normalnim uslovima korišćenja. Monografija sadrži profesionalno mišljenje Komiteta o određenom biljnom proizvodu na osnovu naučnih podataka ili tradicionalne upotrebe u okviru Evropske unije. Za svaku biljnu supstanciju navedeni su indikacija, jačina, upotreba kao i drugi relevantni podaci koji se tiču njene bezbedne

upotrebe ili preparata koji je sadrži. Lista kao i verzije monografija su na raspolaganju za javnu konsultaciju obično u trajanju od 3 meseca na web stranici EMEA (*European Medicinal Evaluation Agency*)⁵.

Iako se na nivou EU čine naponi za usaglašavanje propisa koji se odnose na biljne preparate, u SAD situacija je sasvim drugačija. Kako biljni proizvodi u SAD ne spadaju u kategoriju proizvoda koje reguliše Uprava za hranu i lekove (*Food and Drug Administration – FDA*), to FDA nije odgovorna za donošenje odobrenja za njihovu upotrebu. Oni su regulisani posebnim zakonskim aktom o dijetetskim dodacima ili suplementima – *Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act*^{8,9}. U praksi, pokazalo se da to nije odgovarajući model za regulativu i da se javljaju brojni problemi (prisustvo biljnih supstancija opasnih po zdravlje, nedostatak upotrebe GMP, loša signatura proizvoda, neadekvatno izveštavanje o neželjenim efektima i dr). Kako bi se umanjili nedostaci postojećeg regulatornog rešenja, FDA počela je da razvija posebne strategije za praćenje i proveru biljnih proizvoda i njihovih sastojaka¹⁰⁻¹².

Zakonska regulativa biljnih lekova kod nas

U našoj zemlji zakonski propisi za biljne proizvode u saglasnosti su sa preporukama evropske Direktive 2001/83/EEC i dopunom Direktive 2004/24/EEC. Zakon o lekovima i medicinskim sredstvima (Službeni glasnik Republike Srbije br. 84/2004 i 85/2005) reguliše biljne lekovite proizvode.

Fitopreparati kao aktivni sastojak sadrže usitnjene ili sprasene delove biljaka, balzame, smole, lekovita masna ulja, etarska ulja ili ekstrakte biljaka. U ovu grupu spadaju čajevi i čajne mešavine, ali i moderni farmaceutski oblici (instant prašak, šumeće tablete, tablete za žvakanje, obložene tablete, kapsule, sirup, sprej i sl). Tradicionalni biljni lek sadrži biljku, biljnu drogu (pojedinačnu ili mešavinu), preparate biljne droge (pojedinačne ili mešavinu) za koje se na osnovu iskustva i dugotrajne primene zna da se bezbedno mogu koristiti u svrhu terapije i prevencije. Tradicionalni biljni lekovi podležu odredbama evropske Direktive 2001/83/EEC i dopune Direktive 2004/24/EEC, koje dozvoljavaju sadržaj vitamina i minerala, pri čemu oni tada samo doprinose delovanju glavne biljne komponente i nisu posebno naznačeni u uputstvu. Tradicionalnim biljnim lekom ne smatraju se lekovi koji sadrže hemijski definisane, izolovane sastojke biljaka (npr. mentol, kardiotonične glikozide, i dr). Ukoliko lekovite biljke ili njihovi delovi ulaze u sastav prehrambenih proizvoda ili dijetetskih preparata, onda je reč o biljnim suplementima. Stručno mišljenje o klasifikaciji proizvoda izdaje Agencije za lekove i medicinska sredstva Srbije (ALIMS) čija je nadležnost utvrđena članom 6 Zakona o lekovima i medicinskim sredstvima¹³.

Postojeći problemi u praksi

Kvalitet, bezbednost upotrebe i efikasnost biljnih preparata najvažnija su pitanja koja se regulišu propisima. Uprkos dobro postavljenom regulatornom mehanizmu za biljne pre-

parate, u praksi se javljaju problemi. Najveći problem za primenu zakonskih propisa u oblasti kvaliteta odnosi se na biljne preparate koje upotrebljavaju indijska tradicionalna kineska ili ajurvedska medicina, jer se kod njih najčešće sreću nepravilnosti kao što su namerna ili slučajna upotreba zabranjenih biljnih supstancija, kontaminacija toksičnim ili sintetskim supstancijama ili signatura koja ne odgovara upotrebljenim sastojcima. Svetska zdravstvena organizacija sprovela je ispitivanje kontrole i zakona koji se trenutno primenjuju na biljne preparate u 141 zemlji sveta¹⁴. U odnosu na ispitivanja iz prethodnih godina uočene su pozitivne promene, jer su postojeći problemi u praksi motivisali veći broj zemalja da u poslednje četiri godine uspostave nacionalne strategije za regulisanje upotrebe biljnih preparata¹⁵. U obliku vodiča SZO je ponudila i tehničku podršku za razvoj metodologije za praćenje efikasnosti, kvaliteta, pripreme, bezbedne upotrebe biljnih proizvoda, njihovog reklamiranja i razmene informacija. Nekoliko dokumentovanih problema koji su se javili u proizvodnji i distribuciji biljnih preparata u svetu jasno odslikavaju potrebu za preciznim i strogo sprovedenim zakonskim propisima:

– zamena kineskog *Illicum verum Hook. f.* japanskim *Illicum anisaticum L.* Suvi plodovi ne mogu se razlikovati golim okom, pri čemu je japanski varijetet sličan kineskom, ali pokazuje gastroenterološku i neurološku toksičnost zbog prisutnog anizatina. Godine 2001. nekoliko slučajeva trovanja zabeleženi su u Holandiji, Francuskoj i Španiji, pri čemu su se kod beba koje su greškom pile infuz od japanskog anisa javile konvulzije epileptičnog tipa¹⁶;

– kardiotoksičnost koja se javila pri upotrebi *Aconitum* vrsta u lekovima tradicionalne kineske medicine¹⁷. Koren vrsta *Aconitum* u tradicionalnoj kineskoj medicini potapa se u vodu ili kuva u vreloj vodi sa ciljem da alkaloidi akonitina hidrolizuju u manje toksične akoninske derivate. Međutim, ako ovi procesi nisu kontrolisani krajnji proizvod je toksičan;

– pojava srčanih aritmija prouzrokovanih zamenom bokvice za *Digitalis lanata*. Utvrđeno je da su velike količine pogrešnog biljnog materijala bile poslate u periodu od dve godine na više od 150 adresa proizvođača, veletrgovina i distributera u SAD¹⁸.

Više puta primećeno je da pojedini biljni preparati u svetu sadrže nedozvoljene teške metale, druge toksične sup-

stancije ili sintetske lekove zbog čega se posebno motri na ovaj problem onečišćenja biljnih preparata kineske i ajurvedske medicine^{19–22}. Teški metali u biljnim proizvodima mogu da potiču iz same biljke ili greškom dospevaju u proizvod tokom njegove izrade. Međutim, nekada se teški metali dodaju namerno kao sastojci neophodni za izradu tradicionalnih formulacija u kineskoj ili ajurvedskoj medicini. Tako npr. Kineska farmakopeja sadrži oficinalne monografije za arsenov disulfid, živin hlorid (kalomel), živin sulfid, crveni živin oksid, kao i formulacije mnogih proizvoda koji sadrže jednu ili više ovakvih supstancija²³. U jednom od istraživanja u SAD, koje je obuhvatilo 70 ajurvedskih proizvoda, 20% preparata sadržavalo je štetne koncentracije olova, žive i arsena, dok je u drugoj studiji iz 1998, takođe u SAD, dokumentovano da je 32% uvoznih azijskih proizvoda bilo onečišćeno nedeklarisanim supstancijama (efedrin, hlorfenamin, metiltestosteron, fenacetin) ili teškim metalima (živa, olovo, arsen)^{24,25}. Zabrinjavajuća bila je pojava štetnih sintetskih supstancija (fenfluramin, sibutramin, metilfenidat) u biljnim proizvodima za mršavljenje na bazi tradicionalne kineske medicine. U cilju sprečavanja sličnih situacija u Velikoj Britaniji, *Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency* (MHRA) otvorila je posebnu web stranicu, *Herbal Safety News*, na kojoj se mogu naći upozorenja koja se tiču upotrebe pojedinih biljnih lekova²⁶. Nadalje, za očekivati je da će razvoj analitičkih metoda za kontrolu kvaliteta biljnih preparata omogućiti njihovu bezbedniju primenu u praksi^{27–29}.

Zaključak

Kvalitet i bezbednost upotrebe biljnih preparata ostaju i dalje prioritet koji treba zakonski urediti na svetskom nivou. Za registraciju biljnog preparata kao leka postoje isti zahtevi kao i za registraciju drugih lekova u pogledu dokumentacije koja treba da sadrži predklinička i klinička ispitivanja. Ovakva ispitivanja vrlo su zahtevna, a kako složenost molekulske građe, čak i jednokomponentnih biljnih preparata, ometa utvrđivanje jedinstvenih kriterijuma za jasno praćenje njihovih terapijskih efekata, ispunjavanje zahteva za registrovanje biljnih preparata kao lekova u praksi još uvek je izazov i za naučnike i za proizvođače.

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Rezultati savremenog operativnog lečenja tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta

Results of modern tuboperitoneal infertility treatment

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Apstrakt

Uvod/Cilj. Savremeni pristup operativnog lečenja tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta bazira se na primeni laporaskopskih tehnika. Cilj ovog rada bio je poređenje rezultata operativnog lečenja tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta primenom laporoskopije i klasične laporotomije. **Metode.** Urađena je retrospektivno-prospektivna studija na 66 žena operativno lečenih od infertiliteta tuboperitonealnog porekla. Za retrospektivnu analizu korišćeni su podaci iz istorija bolesti operisanih žena (prethodno dijagnostikovanje uzroka infertiliteta, spermogram, histerosalpingogram, laporoskopija, utvrđivanje ovulacije, hormonsko ispitivanje), dok je prospektivna studija kojom su dobijeni podaci o rezultatima operativnog lečenja peritonealnog infertiliteta (laparoskopijom i klasičnom laporotomijom) urađena metodom ankete. U statističkoj analizi primenjen je neparametarski χ^2 test. Za nivo statističke značajnosti uzeto je $p < 0,05$. **Rezultati.** U periodu od 1996. do 1997. godine, 34 žene operisane su klasičnom laporotomijom (grupa I), a u periodu od 1999. do 2000. godine 32 žene operisane su laporaskopski (grupa II). Dobijeni su sledeći rezultati: ukupan broj nastalih trudnoća bio je 16 (24%), a od toga sedam u grupi I (20,6%) i devet u grupi II (28,1%). Bilo je 13 bolesnica sa po jednom trudnoćom, tj. šest u grupi I (17,6%) i sedam u grupi II (22%). Po dve trudnoće imale su tri žene u grupi I (2,9%) i dve u grupi II (6,2%). Što se tiče ishoda trudnoće, pet bolesnica imalo je spontani pobačaj, dve u grupi I (5,9%) i tri u grupi II (9,4%); dve bolesnice imale su vanmateričnu trudnoću, obe u grupi I (5,9%); tri prevremeni porođaj, jedna u grupi I (2,9%), i dve u grupi II (6,2%); terminski porođaj imalo je šest bolesnica dve u grupi I (5,9%), i četiri u grupi II (12,5%). Statističkom obradom podataka nađeno je da između ove dve grupe nema statistički značajne razlike u broju nastalih trudnoća. **Zaključak.** Hirurško lečenje tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta, bez obzira na to da li je izvedeno klasičnom operacijom ili laporaskopski, dovelo je do velikog broja trudnoća. Prednosti ovih metoda u odnosu na *in vitro* fertilizaciju, kao poslednju mogućnost u lečenju tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta, velike su i ne smeju biti zanemarene.

Ključne reči:

neploidnost, žene; laporotomija; laporoskopija; hirurgija, ginekološka, procedure; lečenje, ishod; trudnoća; abortus, spontani; porođaj.

Abstract

Background/Aim. A modern approach to surgical treatment of tuboperitoneal infertility is based on laparoscopic techniques. The aim of this study was to compare results of tuboperitoneal infertility treatment by the use of laparoscopy and classical laparotomy. **Methods.** A retrospective-prospective study on 66 women treated operatively from tuboperitoneal infertility was performed. Data from patient's anamnesis and those related to the surgical treatment results, obtained by the use of an inquiry, were used in retrospective and prospective analysis, respectively. Chi-square test was used in statistical analysis. P value < 0.05 was considered significant. **Results.** Classical laparotomy was used on 34 women in a period from 1996 to 1997, while 32 women were operated laparoscopically in a period from 1999 to 2000. The results were as follows: a total number of conceived women was 16 (24%), seven in the group I (20.6%) and nine in the group II (28.1%); 13 women were with one pregnancy, six in the group I (17.6%) and seven in the group II (22%). Twice pregnant were three women, one in the group I (2.9%) and two in the group II (6.2%). The resulting pregnancies were: five women with abortion spontaneous, two in the group I (5.9%) and three in the group II (9.4%); two women with extrauterine pregnancy in the group I (5.9%); three with pretemporal birth, one in the group I (2.9%) and two in the group II (6.2%), while six women were with the temporal birth, two in the group I (5.9%) and four in the group II (12.5%). Statistical analysis showed that there was no significant difference in the results between these two groups. **Conclusion.** Surgical treatment of tuboperitoneal infertility, regardless of the used methods (classical laparotomy or laparoscopy) was successful in a great number of women. These methods have a great advantage over *in vitro* fertilization, and they should not be ignored.

Key words:

infertility, female; laparotomy; laparoscopy; gynecologic surgical procedures; treatment, outcome; pregnancy; abortion, spontaneous; parturition.

Uvod

Laparoskopija čvrsto je integrisani deo svakodnevne ginekološke dijagnostičke i terapijske prakse. Danas smo u svakom trenutku u stanju da vizuelno pregledamo unutrašnje genitalne organe žene, bez naročitog fizičkog opterećenja bolesnice¹. Do šezdesetih godina ginekološka laparoskopija imala je više teoretsko značenje i primenjivana je retko, samo u pojedinim klinikama. Svoje izuzetno širenje i uvođenje u kliničku praksu laparoskopija zahvaljuje tehničkim dostignućima, i to u prvom redu automatskim aparatima za stvaranje veštačkog pneumoperitoneuma s CO₂, uvođenjem tzv. hladne svetlosti i poboljšanjem transporta slike u optičke instrumente²⁻⁶. Uvođenjem visokofrekventne struje omogućena je intraabdomenska koagulacija krvnih sudova, a samim tim i hemostaza, što je otvorilo vrata i sprovođenju manjih hirurških zahvata. Visokofrekventna struja omogućila je i koagulaciju jajovoda u svrhu sterilizacije, pa je laparoskopija sa sterilizacijom jajovoda postala najčešće primenjivana laparoskopjska operacija u pojedinim zemljama. Potpunim ovladavanjem krvarenja nastalog za vreme laparoskopije i laparoskopjskih operacija uz pomoć koagulacije visokofrekventnom strujom, endokoagulacijom ili specijalno konstruisanim omčama otvaraju se nove mogućnosti za mnogobrojne hirurške zahvate. To je presecanje adhezija u gornjem i donjem abdomenu, fimbrioplastika i salpingostomija kod tubarnog steriliteta, operativna korekcija tubarnog graviditeta, koagulacija endometritičkih žarišta, punkcija ovarijskih cista i resekcija njihovih zidova, punkcija folikula s aspiracijom ovuluma, enukleacija suspenzornih miomatoznih čvoriča⁷⁻¹⁸. To teoretsko i praktično znanje iz ginekološke laparoskopije dobar je osnov i za endoskopsku abdomensku hirurgiju⁹⁻²¹.

Cilj ovog rada bio je poređenje efikasnosti laparoskopije i klasične laparotomije u lečenju tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta.

Metode

Za istraživanje korišćeni su podaci o bolesnicima operisanim klasičnom laparotomijom u periodu 1996–1997. god, kao i o bolesnicama operisanim laparoskopjskim putem 1999–2000. god. u Ginekološko-akušerskoj klinici „Narodni front“. Urađena je retrospektivno-prospektivna studija. Za retrospektivnu analizu korišćeni su podaci iz istorija bolesti operisanih žena (prethodno dijagnostikovanje uzroka infertiliteta, spermogram, histerosalpingogram, laparoskopija, utvrđivanje ovulacije, hormonsko ispitivanje), dok je prospektivna studija kojom su dobijeni podaci o rezultatima operativnog lečenja peritonealnog infertiliteta (laparoskopijom i klasičnom laparotomijom) urađena metodom ankete, u periodu od aprila do juna 2003. god. Istraživanje je započeto na 169 žena kojima su poslate ankete, međutim, povratnu informaciju o nastalim trudnoćama dobili smo od samo 66 žena, i to od 32 laparoskopjski operisane i 34 žene operisane klasičnom laparotomijom. Statistička analiza urađena je na kompjuteru primenom programa za obradu statističkih podataka SPSS. Statistička analiza obuhvatila je određivanje deskriptivnih parametara; aritmetičke sredine, standardne devijacije, kao i

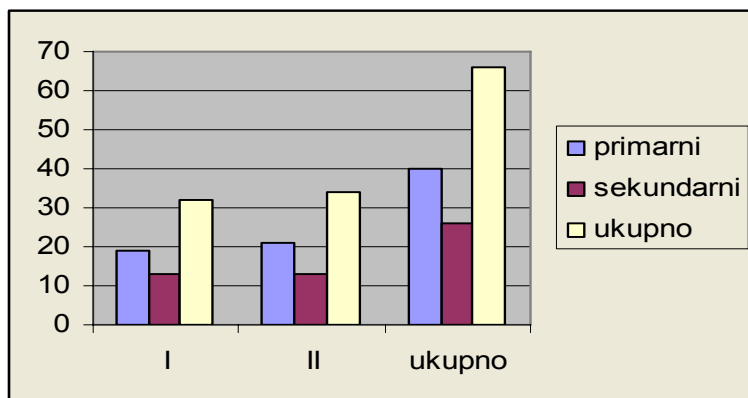
učestalosti pojedinih obeležja. U statističkoj analizi primenjen je neparametarski χ^2 test. Za nivo statističke značajnosti uzeto je $p < 0,05$.

Rezultati

Od 66 žena 32 (48%) operisane su laparoskopjski – prva grupa, dok je kod 34 (52%) urađena klasična laparotomija – druga grupa. Bolesnice operisane laparoskopjski bile su uglavnom iz gradova i sela u unutrašnjosti, dok su bolesnice operisane klasičnom laparotomijom bile uglavnom iz Beograda. To pokazuje da napredak laparoskopije i upućenost u samu operaciju putem sredstava medija utiče na povećanje broja bolesnica iz unutrašnjosti, a naročito iz sela. U prvoj grupi prosečno životno doba žena bilo je 30 god, a u drugoj 32 god. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u godinama života između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,41$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih 62 (94%) bilo je u braku prvi put, a četiri (6%) drugi put. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,332$). Devet (13%) žena bilo je u braku tri godine, 14 (21%) četiri godine, 16 (24%) pet godina, osam (12%) sedam godina, tri (4%) osam godina, jedna (1%) devet godina, dve (2%) 10 godina, jedna (1%) 14 godina, dve (2%) 15 godina, jedna (1%) 17 godina i jedna (1%) 18 godina. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dužini braka između ove dve grupe operisanih žena ($p = 0,399$). Prosek godina provedenih u braku u ove dve grupe operisanih žena bio je oko šest godina. Svih 66 žena (100%) pre operacije imalo je u anamnezi dijagnostikovano neko ginekološko oboljenje. Četrnaest žena (22%) od ukupnog broja operisanih imalo je u anamnezi neku ginekološku operaciju. Deset žena (16%) bilo je iz grupe laparoskopjski operisanih, a četiri (6%) iz grupe operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom. Bez obzira što nije postojala statistički značajna razlika ($p = 0,052$), ona je ipak bila na granici značajnosti što pokazuje da se većina žena odlučila na ponovnu operaciju i to laparoskopjsku, zbog prethodno iznesenih prednosti ove metode. Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena 62 (93%) imale su u anamnezi urađenu apendektomiju – u grupi laparoskopjski operisanih bilo je 28 (42%), dok je u grupi operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom bilo 34 žena (51%). Postojala je statistički značajna razlika u broju prethodno urađenih apendektomija kod ove dve grupe operisanih žena ($p = 0,033$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih, devet žena (14%) imalo je u anamnezi porođaj sa živorođenom decom. Sedam žena (11%) koje su prethodno imale porođaj bilo je u grupi laparoskopjski operisanih, a dve (3%) u grupi operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u anamnezi prethodnih porođaja između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,058$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, 57 (86%) nije imalo namerne prekide trudnoće, sedam (12%) imalo je jedan namerni prekid trudnoće, jedna (1%) imala je dva namerna prekida trudnoće i jedna (1%) tri namerna prekida trudnoće u anamnezi. Četiri žene (7%) imale su namerne prekide trudnoće u grupi laparoskopjski operisanih, a pet (7%) u grupi operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u broju namernih prekida trudnoće u anamnezi operisanih žena u ove dve grupe

($p = 0,551$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, 56 (86%) nije imalo spontani pobačaj, osam (12%) jeste imalo jedan spontani pobačaj, a dve (2%) imale su dva spontana pobača-

sanih žena ($p = 0,163$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, dijagnozu ciste na jajnicima imalo je 13 (20%), i to tri (5%) u grupi laparoskopski operisanih i 10 (15%) u grupi operisa-

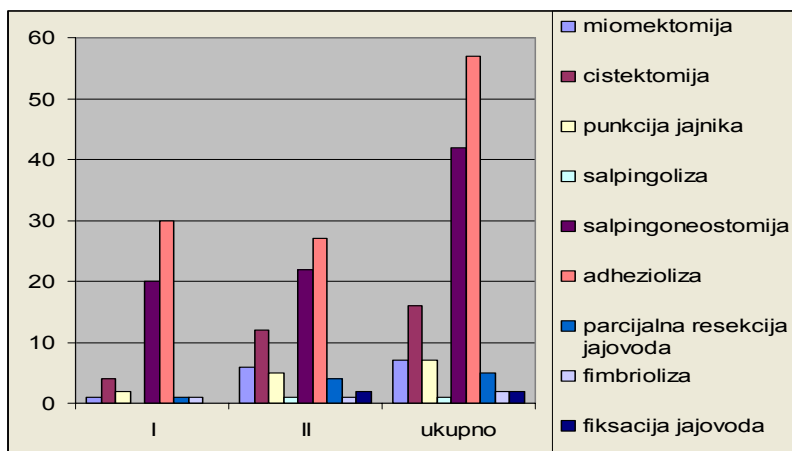


Sl. 1 – Prikaz učestalosti primarnog i sekundarnog infertiliteta kod žena operisanih laparoskopijom (grupa I) i klasičnom laparotomijom (grupa II)

ja. Po grupama: četiri žene (6%) u grupi laparoskopski operisanih imalo je spontani pobačaj, i šest žena (8%) u grupi operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u anamnezi spontanog pobačaja između ovih dve grupe operisanih žena ($p = 0,378$).

Od ukupnog broja operisanih, 40 žena (61%) bilo je sa dijagnozom primarnog, a 26 (39%) sa dijagnozom sekundar-

nih klasičnom laparotomijom. Postojala je statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi cista na jajnicima ($p = 0,040$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, četiri (6%) su imale dijagnozu mikrocistične degeneracije jajnika (sve četiri žene bile su iz grupe operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom). Postojala je statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi mikrocistične degeneracije jajnika između ove dve grupe operisanih žena



Sl. 2 – Prikaz broja laparoskopskih (bolesnice grupe I) i klasičnih laparotomijskih (bolesnice grupe II) operacija

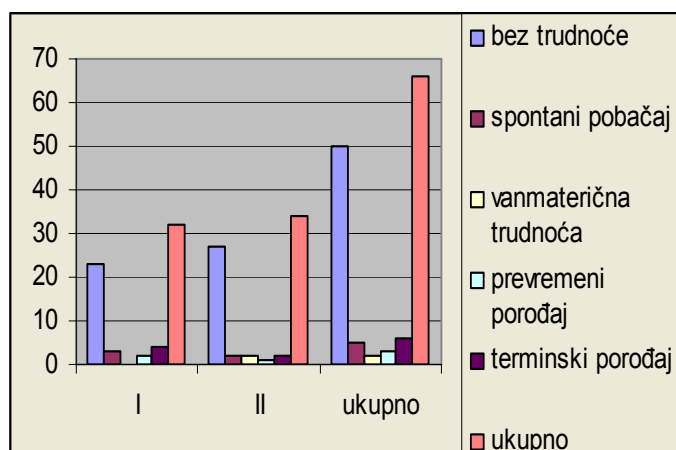
nog infertiliteta (slika 1). U grupi žena operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom, 21 žena (32%) bila je sa dijagnozom primarnog infertiliteta, a 13 (20%) sa dijagnozom sekundarnog infertiliteta. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozama primarnog i sekundarnog infertiliteta između laparoskopski i laparotomijski operisanih žena ($p = 0,842$). Sve operacije, izvedene kod bolesnica I i II grupe, prikazane su slikom 2. Od ukupnog broja operisanih, sedam žena (10%) imalo je dijagnostikovani miom uterusa, i to dve (3%) u grupi laparoskopski operisanih, dok je pet bilo (7%) u grupi operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u učestalosti mioma u ove dve grupe operi-

($p = 0,045$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, dve (2%) su imale dijagnozu policistični ovarijum (PCO) u grupi operisanih klasičnom laparotomijom, dok u grupi laparoskopski operisanih nijedna žena nije imala ovu dijagnozu. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi PCO između ove dve grupe operisanih žena ($p = 0,163$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena dve (2%) su imale dijagnozu paraovarijalnih cisti, po jedna u svakoj od ovih grupa. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi paraovarijalnih cisti između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,96$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, tri (4%) imale su dijagnozu salpingitisa, sve iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijag-

nozi salpingitisa između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,085$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena samo jedna (1%) imala je dijagnozu saktosalpinks i to žena iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi saktosalpinks između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,328$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, 39 (59%) imalo je dijagnozu hidrosalpinks, i to 17 (26%) u prvoj grupi i 22 (33%) u drugoj grupi. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi hidrosalpinks između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,085$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, pet (8%) imalo je dijagnozu subokluzije jajovoda, a od toga tri (5%) iz prve grupe i dvoje (3%) iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi subokluzije jajovoda između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,59$). Od ukupnog broja

imala je dijagnozu adhezije, sedam (11%) iz prve i 14 (21%) iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi adhezije između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,092$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena pet (8%) imalo je dijagnozu endometriozu, tri (5%) iz prve i dve (3%) iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi salpingitisa između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,592$).

U ukupnom broju operacija drenaža *cavum Douglasi* izvedena je kod 41 žene (62%), 29 (44%) iz prve grupe i 12 (18%) iz druge grupe, što je predstavljalo statistički značajnu razliku ($p = 0,000$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, trudnoća je začeta kod njih 16 (24%) i to kod devet (28,1%) žena iz prve grupe i sedam (20,16%) žena iz druge grupe. Nije po-



Sl. 3 – Prikaz ishoda trudnoće nastalih nakon operacije zbog tuboperitonealnog infektiliteta kod bolesnica operisanih laparoskopijom (grupa I) i klasičnim (grupa II) putem

operisanih žena, 17 (26%) imalo je dijagnozu okluzije leve tube, i to pet (8%) iz prve i 12 (18%) iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi okluzije leve tube između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,0678$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena dijagnozu okluzije desne tube imalo je 12 žena (18%), i to pet (8%) u prvoj i sedam (10%) u drugoj grupi. Nije postojao statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi okluzije desne tube između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,601$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, dve (2%) bile su sa dijagnozom konglutinacije fimbrija jajovoda i to obe iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi konglutinacije fimbrija između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,163$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, jedna (1%) imala je dijagnozu aplazije jajovoda, i to iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi aplazije jajovoda između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,328$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena 40 (60%) imalo je dijagnozu hroničnog periadneksitisa, i to 19 (29%) iz prve i 21 (31%) iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi hroničnog periadneksitisa između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,842$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, devet (14%) imalo je dijagnozu hronični pelveoperitonitis, šest (10%) iz prve i tri (4%) iz druge grupe. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u dijagnozi hroničnog pelveoperitonitisa između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,240$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, 21 (32%)

stojala statistički značajna razlika u broju nastalih trudnoća između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,475$). Od ukupnog broja operisanih žena, jednu trudnoću imalo je 13 (20%) žena, a dve trudnoće tri žene (4%) u prvoj grupi, sedam (22%) sa jednom trudnoćom i dve (6,2%) sa dve trudnoće; u grupi II šest (17,6%) sa jednom trudnoćom i jedna (2,9%) sa dve trudnoće. Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u broju trudnoća između ove dve grupe ($p = 0,715$).

Ishod nastalih trudnoća (slika 3) bio je sledeći: pet (7%) završilo se spontanom pobačajem, tri (9,4%) iz prve grupe i dva (5,9%) iz druge grupe; dva (5,9%) vanmateričnom trudnoćom, obe u grupi II; prevremeni porođaj kod tri (4%) i dva (6,2%) u grupi I i jedan (2,9%) u grupi II; terminski porođaj kod šest (10%), i kod četiri (12,5%) u prvoj grupi i dva (5,9%) u drugoj grupi. Broj vanmateričnih trudnoća bio je veći u drugoj grupi, a terminskih porođaja u prvoj grupi.

Diskusija

Operacije zbog tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta apsolutno ne dolaze u obzir ako je žena starija od 39 godina, ima verifikovanu tuberkulozu, aktivni nespecifični upalni proces, masivni i čvrsti adhezivni proces u maloj karlici, obostrane tuboovarijalne ciste, skleroatrofične jajovode, ili teže bipolarni ili unipolarne promene na jajovodima²²⁻²⁵. Posle medi-

kamentozne terapije za upalni proces na adneksima potrebna je pauza od šest meseci pre eventualnog hirurškog zahva. Nakon bilo kakve operacije ili manipulacije na genitalnom aparatu operacija se odgađa za 1–2 meseca. Neprikladnom i prevremenom operacijom mogu biti uništene sve mogućnosti za uspeh. Iz psiholoških razloga ne operišu se bolesnici kada se zna da neće ozdraviti. Ovim bolesnicama savetuje se vantelesna oplodnja^{26–30}. Mnoge od kontraindikacija za operativno lečenje danas predstavljaju indikaciju za vantelesnu oplodnju. Uspeh operativnog lečenja tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta zavisi od operativne tehnike, a u najvećoj meri od stepena raširenosti oštećenja jajovoda i okoline^{31–34}. Dijagnoza stepena i obima oštećenja jajovoda i okoline zbog toga je od bitnog značaja za uspeh operacije^{35–39}. Najvažniji pregledi u dijagnostici tuboperitonealnog uzroka infertiliteta su histerosalpingografija i laparoskopija. Pored tih pregleda uvek se zahteva i spermogram, postkoitalni test, bazalna temperatura, biopsija endometrija i eventualno hormonske analize^{40–42}. Na osnovu toga može se postaviti realna prognoza o mogućnosti operativnog lečenja. Operacija se savetuje ukoliko je mogućnost za uspeh veća od 20 %, a ukoliko je 10–20% ne savetuje se, osim kada se bračni par odluči za operaciju. Ukoliko je mogućnost za uspeh manja od 10% operacija se ne preporučuje niti radi. Tamo gde postoje uslovi i znanje, neke mikrohirurške operacije danas se mogu endoskopski uraditi^{43–47}.

Danas postoje dva uspešna načina lečenja tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta: rekonstruktivno hirurško lečenje i vantelesna oplodnja. Slažemo se s autorima koji smatraju da su mikrohirurgija i fertilizacija *in vitro* komplementarne metode lečenja tuboperitonealnog sterilizirane. Laparoskopija operativna hirurgija tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta poslednji je stepenik u lečenju infertiliteta pre primene IVF. Žene mogu zatrudneti više puta posle jedne operacije. U našem ispitivanju od 34 žene operisane laparoskopskom hirurškom tehnikom, zatrudnelo je devet (28,1%), dok je od 32 žene operisane klasičnom operativnom tehnikom zatrudnelo je sedam žena (20,6%). Nije postojala statistički značajna razlika u broju nastalih trudnoća između ove dve grupe operisanih žena.

Dobijeni rezultati sugerišu da uspeh operativnog lečenja tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta zavisi pre svega od rasprostranjenosti patološkog procesa, a zatim od primenjenog operativnog metoda, iskustva hirurga, raspoložive opreme, starosti bolesnice kao i od dužine braka. Bolesnice operisane laparoskopskom hirurškom tehnikom imaju veći procenat nastalih intrauterinih trudnoća (28,1%) u odnosu na bolesnice operisane klasičnom metodom (20,6%), ali ipak ta razlika nije statistički značajna. Ektopične trudnoće nastale su samo kod dve žene operisane klasičnom hirurškom tehnikom. Žene mogu posle jedne operacije zatrudneti više puta. Laparoskopija izaziva manji metabolički odgovor na stres, zbog manje operativne destrukcije tkiva, eliminiše abdominalnu inciziju, šteti dijafragmalnu funkciju, šteti plućnu funkciju, smanjuje postoperativni ileus, obezbeđuje minimalnu nepokretnost žene, ekonomičnija je u odnosu na klasičnu laparotomiju i IVF, omogućuje preciznije operisanje zbog povećanja slike. Laparoskopijom se postiže bolja hemostaza zahvaljujući boljoj opremi, manje je gnječena tkiva i oštećenja sluznice i izbegava se nepotrebna tamponada creva. Posle laparoskopskih operacija oporavak je brži i manje je bolan i ostaje manje ožiljaka na koži i u operativnom polju. Brža je mobilizacija bolesnica, manji je rizik od tromboembolije i tromboze, a oporavak kraći. Rezultati potvrđuju da ginekološka mikrohirurgija s pravom zauzima prvo mesto kada je u pitanju lečenje tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta, ali rezultati ponovo potvrđuju da su napretku hirurgije postavljene granice, kako u dijagnostici, tako i u operativnoj tehnici. Postoji relativno visok broj inoperabilnih bolesnica, a osim toga dobra rekonstrukcija ne znači uvek i dobru funkciju.

Zaključak

Hirurško lečenje tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta, bez obzira na to da li je izvedeno klasičnom operacijom ili laparoskopski, dovelo je do velikog broja trudnoća. Prednosti ovih metoda u odnosu na *in vitro* fertilizaciju, kao poslednju mogućnost u lečenju tuboperitonealnog infertiliteta, velike su i ne smeju biti zanemarene.

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Atypical immunophenotype in a littoral cell angioma

Atipični imunofenotip kod angioma litoralnih ćelija

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Abstract

Background. Littoral-cell angioma (LCA) is a recently described benign vascular tumor of the spleen, whose imaging and pathologic characteristics have been discussed only by a few authors. The tumor is characterized by a mixture of papillary and cystic areas lined by neoplastic cells deriving from normal splenic lining – littoral cells. The neoplastic LCA cells express both endothelial and histiocytic antigens associated with CD8 negativity, compared with the normal endothelium of the venous sinuses of the spleen red pulp that only expresses endothelial antigens and CD8 positivity. Therefore, the typical and characteristic immunohistochemical pattern of the LCA is as follows: CD31, CD68, CD163, CD21, FVIII antigen positive; CD34, CD8 negative. **Case report.** We reported a 60-year-old male with moderate nodular splenomegaly with one large hypoechoic solid lesion and mild thrombocytopenia in whom the diagnosis of LCA was made after the elective splenectomy. Namely, histopathological and immunohistochemical data allowed a final diagnosis of classical LCA in spite of CD21 negativity. As far as we know this is the first reported CD21-negative LCA patient. Histological specimens were presented and differential diagnoses discussed. **Conclusion.** Littoral-cell angioma is a very rare benign splenic neoplasm that should be considered in the differential diagnosis of multinodular splenomegaly, particularly if the patient has the signs of hypersplenism.

Key words:

splenic neoplasms; immunohistochemistry; histology; antigens, CD; splenectomy.

Apstrakt

Uvod. Angiom litoralnih ćelija (ALĆ) nedavno je opisan benigni tumor slezine vaskularnog porekla o čijim patohistološkim i radiološkim karakteristikama ima malo podataka u medicinskoj literaturi. Tumor se odlikuje prisustvom papilarnih i cističnih tvorevina sastavljenih od tumorskih ćelija koje vode poreklo od litoralnih ćelija slezine koje oblažu venske sinuse crvene pulpe. Za razliku od normalnih litoralnih ćelija slezine koje ekspiriraju samo endotelne antigene, ćelije ALĆ ekspiriraju istovremeno endotelne i histiocitne antigene uz odsustvo bojenja na CD8 koje je inače prisutno kod normalnih litoralnih ćelija. Stoga, imunofenotipski profil ALĆ jedinstven je i karakterističan: CD31, CD68, CD163, CD21, FVIII antigen pozitivni; CD34, CD8 negativni. **Prikaz bolesnika.** Prikazan je bolesnik, star 60 godina, sa umereno uvećanom, nodularno infiltrisanom slezinom i blagim stepenom trombocitopenije, kod koga je dijagnoza bila ALĆ, postavljena posle elektivne splenektomije. Patohistološki nalaz, dopunjen imunohistohemijom pokazao je da se radi o klasičnom obliku ALĆ, uprkos odsustvu ekspresije CD21 antigena. Koliko nam je poznato ovo je prvi slučaj ALĆ bez ekspresije CD21 antigena u medicinskoj literaturi. Prikaz bolesnika diskutovan je u svetlu patohistološkog nalaza i diferencijalne dijagnoze. **Zaključak.** Smatra se da je ALĆ redak, benigni tumor slezine koji može biti uzrok splenomegalije, pogotovo ako se radi o slezini sa nodusima i pridruženim hipersplenizmom.

Ključne reči:

slezina, neoplazme; imunohistohemija; histologija; antigeni, CD; splenektomija.

Introduction

Littoral-cell angioma (LCA) is a very rare primary tumor of the spleen arising from normal endothelial cells lining the venous sinuses of the splenic red pulp (littoral cells)¹. The neoplastic LCA cells express both endothelial and his-

tiocytic antigens, compared with the normal endothelium of the venous sinuses that only expresses endothelial antigens¹. Therefore, the immunophenotypic signature of CD31, CD68, CD163, FVIII antigen and CD21 on the lining cells of the LCA is unique to this tumor. Typically, CD34 and CD8 are negative. The tumor is considered benign, though the litera-

ture has described a patient with disseminated disease and an apparent response to the therapy, and two other cases have shown histological atypia, though without fully malignant histological features¹⁻³.

Case report

A 60-year-old male was referred to our institute in December 2006 due to spleen tumor. He complained of intermittent blunt pain of moderate intensity under his left costal margin lasting for a few years but it was not before November 2006 that the abdominal ultrasound (US) scan was performed revealing an enlarged spleen of 15.5 cm with a large hypoechogenic solid lesion. Computerized tomography (CT) without contrast confirmed splenomegaly (17 × 12.4 cm), nonhomogenous and hypodense without clear delineation of tumor.

Physical examination identified an enlarged, firm, non-tender spleen extending 3 cm below the left costal margin. The patient's medical history besides arterial hypertension was unremarkable. He was not aware of any familial related diseases and had not recently visited a foreign country. The patient had been constitutionally well and denied suffering from fever, weight loss or night sweats. All hematological values were normal except for a mild thrombocytopenia ($60-70 \times 10^9/L$). Clotting tests were within normal limits, excluding a disseminated intravascular coagulopathy. No biochemical or immunological abnormalities were found and viral serological tests were negative.

For diagnostic purposes the patient underwent splenectomy. The 900-gram resected spleen (16 × 13 × 8.7 cm) had an intact and sturdy capsule (Figure 1). Splenic tissue was

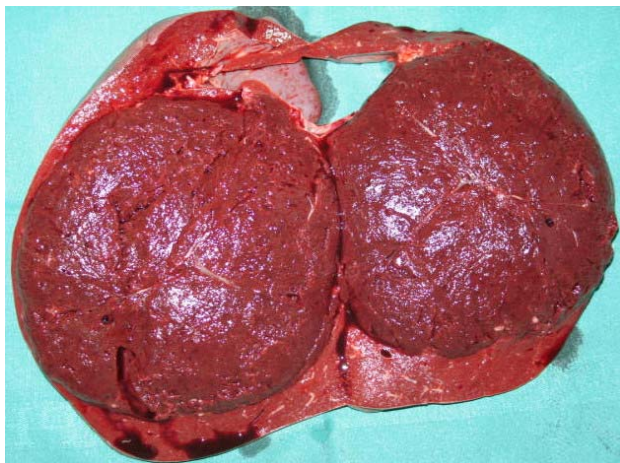


Fig. 1 – 900g-resected spleen specimen measuring 19 × 13 × 8.7 cm. Splenic tissue was almost completely, except the poles, replaced by the nodular tumor of 11.5 × 10 × 8.5 cm

completely replaced by a solitary nodular lesion of spongy appearance measuring 11.5 × 10 × 8.5 cm. Microscopically, the lesion consisted of dilated anastomosing vascular channels, with multiple papillary projections and cyst-like spaces (Figure 2). These channels were lined with tall endothelial

cells positive for FVIII antigen, CD68 (Figure 3), CD31 (Figure 4) and lysozyme showing their mixed endothelial-

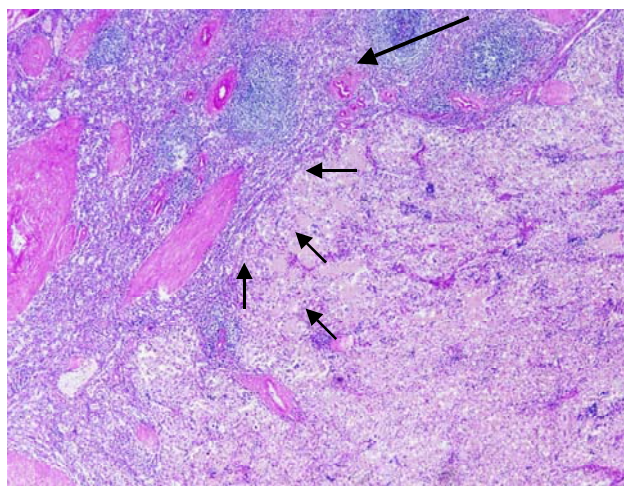


Fig. 2 – The spleen. Anastomosing blood filled vascular channels in the red pulp with irregular lumina forming cyst-like spaces indicated by shorts arrows; long arrow indicates a regular spleen tissue (H&E, original magnification, × 40)

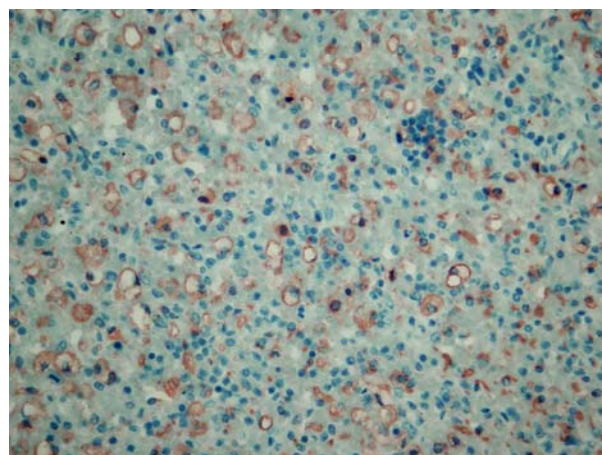


Fig. 3 – Immunohistochemical stains of the original tumor. Most littoral-cell angioma lining cells express membranous staining for CD68 (original magnification, × 400)

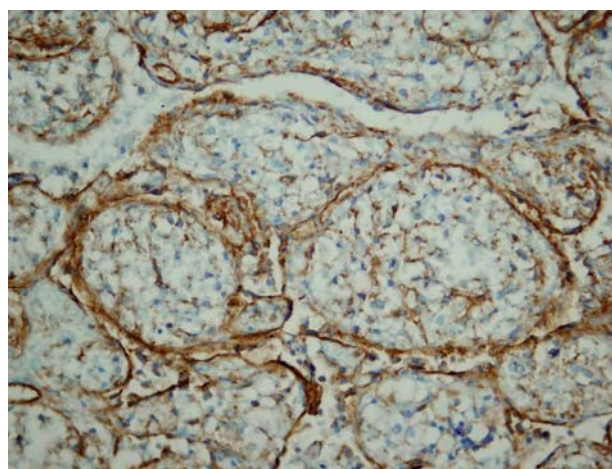


Fig. 4 – Immunohistochemical stains of the original tumor. Some littoral-cell angioma lining cells express cytoplasmic staining for CD31 (original magnification, × 400)

histiocyte phenotype. The endothelial cells were CD21, CD34 and CD8 negative. Littoral cells exhibited hemophagocytosis and an intracellular hemosiderin. Additional feature was a focus of extramedullary hematopoiesis. No atypical cells or mitotic figures were seen. Although the endothelial cells in our patient lack CD21 positivity, which is typically at least focal in LCA, the pathohistological finding in our case is consistent with the immunophenotype of a classical LCA. Bone marrow and liver biopsies were normal. The patient recovered well from surgery and his platelet count normalized. Six months after the surgery, the patient remains asymptomatic.

Discussion

Littoral-cell angioma represents a rare and distinct clinico-pathological benign tumor of the spleen¹. It is a lesion unique to the spleen and always situated within the splenic red pulp. It is seen throughout a wide age range and occurs equally in the sexes. The clinical presentation can include splenomegaly, hypersplenism with thrombocytopenia and/or anemia as in our case, pyrexia of unknown origin or could be an incidental finding. Littoral-cell angioma has been associated with synchronous malignancies (colorectal, renal and pancreatic adenocarcinoma, ovarian cancer and seminoma and lymphoma), autoimmune (aplastic anemia, Crohn's disease) and Gaucher's disease indicating a possible altered function of the immune system as a possible pathophysiological association⁴⁻⁸. Neither clinical signs nor

symptoms of either malignant disease or any other disease were detected during the 18-month follow-up of the patient. The combination of morphologic and immunohistochemical analyses showing a hybrid endothelial-histiocytic phenotype established the diagnosis of LCA in the patient in spite of CD21 negativity.

Primary tumors of the spleen other than lymphoid and hematological tumors are quite rare, and LCA should be considered in the differential diagnosis of multinodular splenomegaly⁹⁻¹³. The most difficult differential diagnosis from which to distinguish LCA is angiosarcoma. LCA, however, lacks the irregular growth pattern of the anastomosing vessels, nuclear atypia, increased mitotic activity and necrosis seen in angiosarcoma. Radiological diagnosis is difficult as the findings on US, CT and ⁹⁹Technitium scanning are fairly nonspecific.

Conclusion

Littoral-cell angioma itself is a rare benign splenic neoplasm that should be considered in the differential diagnosis of nodular splenomegaly, particularly if the patient has clinical symptoms of hyperplenism.

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Kimura's disease in a young Balkan male

Bolest Kimura kod dečaka sa Balkana

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Abstract

Introduction. Kimura's disease is a rare, chronic inflammatory disorder of unknown cause, mainly seen in young Asian men. To our knowledge it has not been reported previously in persons from the Balkan countries. **Case report.** We presented a 15-year-old male with Kimura's disease manifested as chronic left neck mass. The diagnosis was based on the histopathological findings of the excised lesion. Peripheral blood eosinophilia and raised serum Immunoglobulin E (IgE) level supported the diagnosis. **Conclusion.** The presented patient confirmed the fact that Kimura's disease could occur in different ethnic groups. Histopathological examination, should be performed prior to making the definitive diagnosis.

Key words:

lymph nodes; neck; diagnosis; biopsy; immunohistochemistry; eosinophilia; diagnosis, differential; angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia; adult.

Apstrakt

Uvod. Kimura bolest redak je hronični inflamatorni poremećaj nepoznate etiologije, koji se najčešće sreće kod mlađih muškaraca iz Azije. Prema našim saznanjima, do sada nije opisan nijedan slučaj Kimura bolesti na Balkanu. **Prikaz bolesnika.** Prikazan je bolesnik, dečak star 15 godina, sa hroničnim otokom na vratu, sa leve strane. Dijagnoza Kimura bolesti postavljena je na osnovu patohistološke analize ekscirpirane promene. Eozinofilija u perifernoj krvi i povišeni nivo serumskog imunoglobulina E (IgE) išli su u prilog postavljenoj dijagnozi. **Zaključak.** Treba imati u vidu da se Kimura bolest može javiti u različitim etničkim grupama i na našim prostorima. Definitivna dijagnoza postavlja se isključivo na osnovu patohistološke analize.

Ključne reči:

limfne žlezde; vrat; dijagnoza; biopsija; imunohistochemija; eozinofilija; dijagnoza, diferencijalna; angiolimfoidna hiperplazija sa eozinofilijom; odrasle osobe.

Introduction

Kimura's disease (KD) is a rare, chronic inflammatory condition of unknown cause. It was initially described in Chinese literature and it became known as KD after its publication by Kimura et al.¹ of similar cases in Japan². It mainly affects young Asian men, although it occurs sporadically in other areas and ethnic groups³⁻⁵. To our knowledge it has not been reported previously in persons from Balkan countries. Kimura's disease occurs predominantly as a unilateral manifestation in the head and neck and it is frequently associated with regional lymphadenopathy with or without involvement of salivary glands⁶. Other unusual sites of involvement include the auricle, scalp and orbit^{7,8}. We report a case of KD in a young Serbian male. We present this unusual case to increase awareness of KD in different ethnic groups and to elucidate the pitfalls in its diagnosis.

Case report

A 15-year-old male was presented to the University Clinical Center in Niš for evaluation of a left neck palpable mass (4.5 × 3.5 × 3 cm) of 6-month duration. The patient was treated with antibiotics, but the tumor persisted. There was no history of pain, fever, or weight loss and he seemed well. No redness was noted on the overlying skin. Neither axillary or inguinal lymphadenopathy nor hepatosplenomegaly was noted. Laboratory findings revealed an eosinophilia in the peripheral blood and elevated serum Immunoglobulin E (IgE) level. Clinically, the differential diagnosis included infectious lymph node enlargement (tuberculosis, toxoplasmosis), although neoplastic conditions (Hodgkin's disease and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma) were the first diagnoses considered and an open biopsy was recommended. Stains and cultures for bacteria, fungi and mycobacteria were negative.

In March 2007, the patient underwent an open biopsy of the left neck mass with excision of cervical lymph nodes and salivary gland. The obtained tissue was fixed, embedded in paraffin and stained with hematoxylin-eosin (H&E). Immunohistochemical analysis was performed on paraffin sections with the alkaline phosphatase anti-alkaline phosphatase (APAAP) technique, using antibodies against CD20, CD3, CD45, CD15, CD34, S100 protein and alpha-smooth muscle actin (DAKO, Copenhagen, Denmark).

The sections stained with H&E showed diffuse, dense, lymphoid and eosinophilic infiltrates forming eosinophilic microabscesses (Figure 1). The inflammatory infiltrates involved the salivary gland and perinodal adipose tissue. Histopathology of the lymph nodes revealed a follicular lymphoid hyperplasia with focal eosinophilic infiltration within the paracortex and interfollicular region. Mitoses were confined to the reactive germinal centers. The lesion was markedly of vascular type; the thin-walled blood vessels were numerous with plump endothelial cells. There was no evidence of atypia. Large caliber arteries were rarely seen. Although plasma cells and histiocytes were present, no epithelioid cells and multinucleated giant cells were seen.

Immunohistochemical findings: CD20 highlighted the follicle center B-cells; CD3 and CD45 demonstrated numerous interfollicular T-cells; stains for CD15 and S100 protein were negative. There was a strongly positive reaction to CD34 on the endothelial lining cells of proliferating blood vessels. The majority of the vessels showed prominent perithelial cells, which were distinctly demonstrable by alpha-smooth muscle actin antibody (Figure 2). The diagnosis of KD was made based on histopathological findings after surgical excision. Peripheral eosinophilia and elevated serum IgE level further supported the diagnosis.

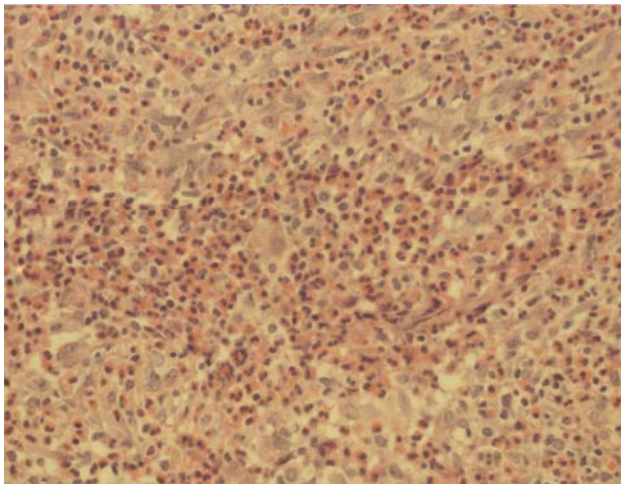


Fig. 1 – Section showing dense infiltration of eosinophils forming eosinophilic microabscesses (H&E 400 ×)

Discussion

The etiology and pathogenesis of KD is unclear, although it might be a self-limited allergic or autoimmune response triggered by an unknown stimulus. A viral or para-

sitic trigger may alter T-cell immunoregulation or induce an IgE-mediated type 1 hypersensitivity resulting in the release of eosinophil-tropic cytokines^{3,9}. Activated CD4 cells of the Th2 phenotype can release cytokines such as interleukin (IL)-4, IL-5 and IL-13, which in turn would act in B-cells favoring the production of antigen-specific IgE. T helper 2 (Th) cell proliferation and the overexpression of cytokines would play an essential role in the development of KD¹⁰. The prognosis of KD is excellent, and the disease has no potential for malignancy¹¹. Prior to biopsy, we did not consider the diagnosis of KD in our patient because of its rarity in this region. Patients with KD are often extensively evaluated for other disorders, such as Mikulicz's disease, eosinophilic granuloma, salivary gland tumors and lymphoma⁵. Although the intense eosinophilia are suggestive of a parasitic infection, no parasites have been identified. The morphological and immunohistochemical features excluded Hodgkin's disease and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The thin-walled blood vessels were prominent, but there was no true vasculitis, so that systemic vascular disease was unlikely. Kimura's disease can also be confused with angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia (ALHE). In the past, KD and ALHE often were considered to be the same disease. Despite subtle clinical and histological similarities, KD and ALHE now are considered to be separate entities⁶. Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia is a vascular malformation resulting from an arteriovenous shunt, typically presenting in women during early to mid-adult life. Lymphadenopathy and salivary gland involvement are uncommon in ALHE; eosinophilia in the peripheral blood is frequently absent, as well as the levels of IgE which are normal¹¹. Angiolymphoid hyperplasia with eosinophilia is characterized by dilated blood vessels which

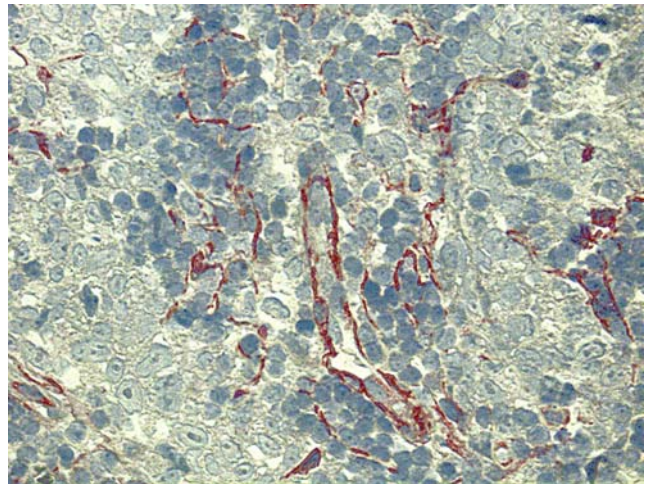


Fig. 2 – Perithelial cells in thin-walled blood vessel demonstrated by immunohistochemistry using alpha-smooth muscle actin (alkaline phosphatase anti-alkaline phosphatase, 630 ×)

have irregular shapes, in addition to enlarged epithelioid-appearing endothelial cells with prominent vacuoles in the cytoplasm. These vacuoles are not present in KD^{6,11}. Additional morphologic features present in our case and characteristic of KD include the noncircumscribed inflamma-

tory infiltrates within extranodal tissues associated with reactive germinal center formation and eosinophilic microabscesses (Figure 1). The immunohistochemistry of the lesion demonstrated prominent perithelial cells by alpha-smooth muscle actin antibody in the majority of the blood vessels (Figure 2). A previous study suggested the table of differential histopathological features between ALHE and KD in which the absence of smooth muscles in blood vessel wall is a characteristic feature of KD⁶. Nevertheless, in our opinion the alpha-smooth muscle actin could be very useful diagnostic marker of KD.

Conclusion

Clinicians and pathologists may be unfamiliar with the clinical presentation and histopathology of this rare disease. Early diagnosis of KD may spare a patient from potentially harmful and unnecessary invasive diagnostic procedures. A definitive diagnosis can be made only by histopathological examination of the excised lesion, demonstrating the role of the surgical pathologist in the detection of this uncommon chronic inflammatory disorder.

Acknowledgement

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Mezoatrijalni šant kod *Budd – Chiari* sindroma

Mesoatrial shunt in Budd – Chiari syndrome

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Apstrakt

Uvod. Budd-Chiari sindrom (BCS) predstavlja parcijalnu ili potpunu okluziju hepatičnih vena sa ili bez istovremene opstrukcije donje šuplje vene (VCI). Simptomi ovog sindroma su: abdominalni bol, hepatomegalija, ascites, proširene vene trbušnog zida, ponekad krvarenje iz gornjih partija gastrointestinalnog trakta (GIT), otoci nogu i žutica. Primarni BCS relativno je retko stanje i javlja se kod 1/100 000 stanovnika u svetu. **Prikaz bolesnika.** Muškarac, star 25 godina, nakon ekstrakcije umnjaka razvio je akutnu formu BCS. Fizikalnim pregledom na prijemu uočena je sivobleda boja kože, pojačan venski crtež na grudnom košu i stomaku, ascites, uvećana jetra koja je prominirala 8 cm ispod desnog rebarnog luka, dok je sa desne strane postojao manji pleuralni izliv. Kod bolesnika dopler sonografijom i kompjuterizovanom tomografijom (CT) verifikovana je tromboza dubokih vena desne noge i prisustvo tromba u intrahepatičnom delu donje šuplje vene. Multislajсна kompjuterizovana tomografija (MSCT) vena jetre i donje šuplje vene pokazala je okluziju hepatičnih vena (sindrom *Budd-Chiari*) i trombozu donje šuplje vene u retrohepatičnom delu u dužini od 6 cm. Registrovane su povišene vrednosti transaminaza i gamma GT sa nižim vrednostima albumina i serumskog gvožđa. Molekularnim ispitivanjem otkrivena je mutacija faktora V Leiden - heterozigot. Nakon preoperativne pripreme kreiran je mesenterikoatrijalni šant *Gore-Tex ring* graftom 12 mm. Intraoperativno, nađena je uvećana jetra, modra, sa skoro crnim zonama napete kapsule. Nakon kreiranja grafta došlo je do smanjenja kongestije jetre, što je bilo praćeno promenom boje i volumena. U postoperativnom toku došlo je do izrazitog poboljšanja metaboličke i sintetske funkcije jetre. **Zaključak.** Kod bolesnika koji imaju *Budd-Chiari* sindrom medikamentna terapija ne daje adekvatne rezultate, već vodi do pogoršanja opšteg stanja. Pravovremeno izvedena operacija sprečava ireverzibilne promene na jetri, a dekompresija portnog sistema omogućava vremensko premošćenje do transplantacije jetre.

Ključne reči:
tromboza, hepatičke vene; faktor Va; dijagnoza;
portosistemski šant, hirurški; lečenje, ishod.

Abstract

Background. Budd-Chiari syndrome (BCS) represents partial or total occlusion of the hepatic veins with or without simultaneous obstruction of vena cava inferior (VCI). The symptoms of BCS are abdominal pain, hepatomegaly, ascites, varices of the abdominal wall, sometimes bleeding from the upper part of gastrointestinal tract (GIT), lower limbs swelling and jaundice. Primary BCS is a relatively rare condition occurring in one per 100 000 of the population worldwide. **Case report.** A male patient, 25-year-old, facing tooth postextraction complications, was presented with acute BCS. On admission, physical examination revealed pale-grayish complexion, more pronounced veins over the thorax and abdomen, ascites, enlarged liver rising 8 cm below the right costal arch and having a minor pleural effusion by the right side. The patient was submitted to Doppler sonography and computed tomography (CT) that verified the right leg deep veins thrombosis, as well as the presence of a thrombus in the intrahepatic portion of the VCI. Multislice computed tomography (MSCT) showed occlusion of hepatic veins (Budd-Chiari syndrome) and thrombosis of the VCI in the retrohepatic part 6 cm long. Also, increased values of transaminases and gamma GT and reduced values of albumines and serum ferrum were registered. Molecular examination revealed Factor V Leiden mutation – heterozygote. After preoperative preparations a mesocaval shunt was made using *Gore-Tex ring* graft of 12 mm. Intraoperatively, the blue enlarged liver was found with almost black zones of tense capsule. After a graft making, liver congestion decreased followed by the change of colour and volume. Within postoperative course metabolic and synthetic liver functions were obvious. **Conclusion.** In patients with BCS medicamentous treatment does not yield adequate results, but even causes worsening of general condition. Surgical therapy in the presented patient was performed timely regarding the stage of the disease due to which irreversible liver changes were prevented while decompression of the portal system provided time overbridging up to liver transplantation.

Key words:
hepatic vein thrombosis; factor Va; diagnosis;
portosystemic shunt, surgical; treatment outcome.

Uvod

Budd-Chiari sindrom (BCS) podrazumeva parcijalnu ili potpunu okluziju hepatičnih vena sa ili bez istovremene opstrukcije donje šuplje vene (VCI). Nazvan je po britanskom internisti George-u Budd-u, koji je prvi opisao tri slučaja tromboze hepatičnih vena 1845. godine i Hans-u Chiari-u, austrijskom patologu koji je prvi dao opis jetre sa obliterišućim endoflebitisom hepatičnih vena 1899. godine¹.

Primarni BCS relativno je retko stanje i javlja se kod 1/100000 stanovnika u svetu². Odlikuje se geografskim varijacijama u pogledu etioloških i predisponirajućih faktora. U anglosaksonskoj literaturi kao uzroci okluzije hepatičnih vena najčešće se navode mijeloproliferativne bolesti, hiperkoagulabilnost krvi, primena kontraceptivnih pilula i tumori, dok se u azijskim zemljama, kao uzrok, kod 60% bolesnika navodi membranska opstrukcija donje šuplje vene, a zatim trudnoća i infekcija jetre^{3,4}.

Simptomi kod BCS su abdominalni bol, distenzija trbuha, ponekad krvarenje iz gornjih partija gastrointestinalnog trakta (GIT) i žutica. Najvažniji znaci bolesti su hepatomegalija, ascites, proširene vene trbušnog zida i otoci nogu^{5,6}. Dijagnoza sindroma ranije se bazirala na kavogramu donje šuplje vene, funkcijom hepatogramu ili biopsiji jetre, a sada su značajne dijagnostičke metode angiografija magnetnom rezonancijom (MRI), kompjuterizovana tomografija (CT), multislajсна kompjuterizovana tomografija (MSCT), ultrasonografija i pulsna dopler sonografija⁷⁻¹⁰. Kod bolesnika sa BCS kod kojih okluzija ili kompresija VCI onemogućavaju korišćenje standardnog portokavalnog šanta za dekompresiju vene porte, kreiranje mezoatrijalnog šanta, pored transplantacije jetre, predstavlja metodu izbora¹¹.

Kreiranje šanta vrši se upotrebom politetrafluoroetilenkog grafta koji spaja gornju mezenteričnu venu i desnu pretkomoru¹².

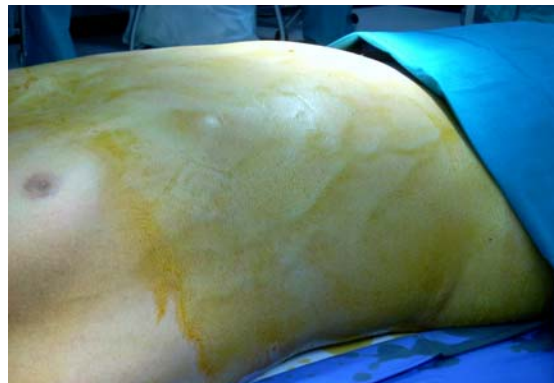
Prikaz bolesnika

Bolesnik, star 25 godina, prve tegobe osenio je u maju 2007. godine, kada se javio zubaru zbog ekstrakcije zuba. Nekoliko dana nakon intervencije video je duple slike. Sa dijagnozom sinuzitisa, bolesnik je tri nedelje mirovao i uzimao antibiotike. Početkom jula iste godine, nekoliko dana pošto je prestao da koristi antibiotike, iznenada došlo je do otoka desne noge i malaksalosti, pri čemu nije imao bolove, a telesna temperatura bila je u granicama referentnih vrednosti. Uzimao je tablete aspirina nekoliko dana, zatim je hospitalizovan u bolnici u Čikagu, gde je uveden i enoksaparin, a zatim je preveden na varfarin. Registrovana je značajna mikrocitna, hiposideremijska anemija, hepatomegalija uz izrazito sniženje hemoglobina, kao i tromboza donje šuplje vene. Nakon povratka u Srbiju hospitalizovan je u Vojnomedicinsku akademiju, u Kliniku za urgentnu medicinu, kao hitan slučaj zbog znakova tromboze dubokih vena desne noge i hepatomegalije. Fizikalnim pregledom na prijemu uočena je sivobleđa boja kože, pojačan venski crtež na grudnom košu i stomaku, ascites, uvećana jetra koja je prominirala 8 cm ispod desnog rebarnog luka, dok je sa desne strane postojao

manji pleuralni izliv. Dopler sonografijom i CT verifikovana je tromboza dubokih vena desne noge i prisustvo tromba u intrahepatičnom delu donje šuplje vene.

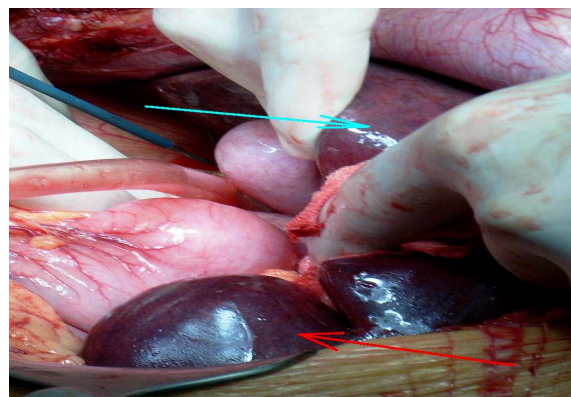
Metodom MSCT vena jetre i donje šuplje vene otkrivena je okluzija hepatičnih vena (BSC) i tromboza donje šuplje vene u retrohepatičnom delu u dužini od 6 cm. Kontrastnom flebografijom, pristupom iz leve noge, potvrđen je isti nalaz. Analiza tumorskih markera pokazala je da su vrednosti u granicama referentnih. Registrovane su povišene vrednosti transaminaza, gama GT sa nižim vrednostima albumina i serumskog gvožđa. Molekularnim ispitivanjem otkrivena je mutacija faktora V Leiden - heterozigot. Primenjena je konzervativna terapija: heparin, kibernin, albumini, diuretici, antibiotici, vitamini. Po primenjenoj konzervativnoj terapiji došlo je do delimičnog popravljanja kliničkog i laboratorijskog statusa, čime je bolesnik pripremljen za neophodnu hiruršku intervenciju koja je učinjena 16. avgusta 2007. godine (*Shunt mesoatrialis cum ringed Gore-Tex vascular grafti* N°12).

Operativni nalaz ukazivao je na distenziju trbuha bolesnika sa naglašenom kolateralnom venskom cirkulacijom preko trbušnog zida (slika 1).



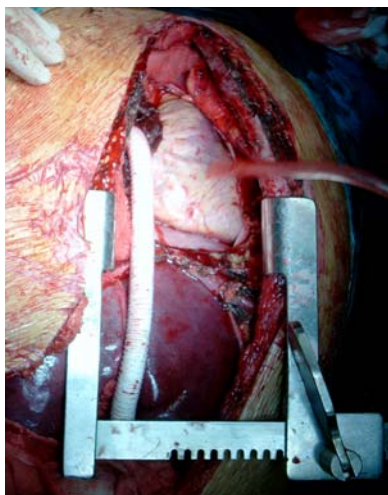
Sl. 1 – Naglašena kolateralna cirkulacija preko trbušnog zida

Operativna incizija izvršena je primenom sternotomije i medijalne laparotomije. Evakuisano je sedam litara ascitne tečnosti. Nađena je uvećana jetra, modra, sa skoro crnim zonama, napete kapsule. Desni lobus pružao se 8 cm ispod desnog rebarnog luka, a levi lobus 9 cm ispod levog rebarnog luka (slika 2). Za kreiranje šanta upotrebljen je ringovani po-



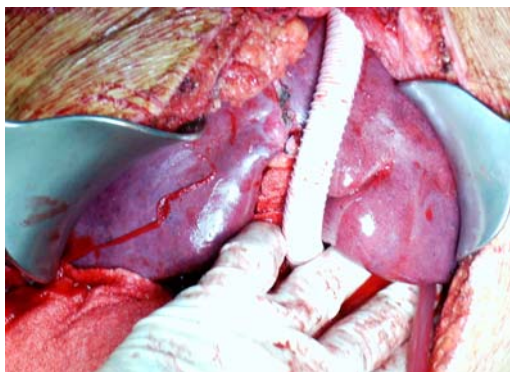
Sl. 2 – Uvećana, modra jetra, napete kapsule

litetrafluoroetilenski (*Gore-tex*) graft promera 12 mm koji je anastomoziran terminolateralno sa gornjom mezenteričnom venom promera 13 mm. Graft je plasiran kroz mezokolon i gastrokolični ligament, ispred jetre. Kreirana je terminolateralna anastomoza između grafta i aurikule (slika 3).



Sl. 3 – Operativno polje - položaj grafta

Po puštanju klema smanjila se kongestija jetre, sa promenom boje i volumena (slika 4). U postoperativnom toku došlo je do poboljšanja metaboličke i sintetske funkcije jetre.



Sl. 4 – Izgled jetre nakon plasiranja grafta

Kontrolnim snimcima MSCT i CT potvrđen je adekvatan položaj grafta i njegova funkcionalnost (slika 5).



Sl. 5 – Položaj grafta na snimku multislajmsne kompjuterizovane tomografije

Diskusija

Sindrom BCS pokazuje varijacije u zavisnosti od geografskih karakteristika. U zapadnim zemljama dominantni uzroci su mijeloproliferativne bolesti, paroksizmalna noćna hemoglobinurija, genetska deficijencija antikoagulantnih faktora koji se prirodno nalaze u perifernoj cirkulaciji (poput proteina C, proteina S ili antitrombina III) i druge protrombogenske bolesti (poput mutacije protrombinskog gena). Abdominalna trauma, trudnoća, primena oralnih kontraceptivnih pilula na bazi estrogena predstavljaju faktore koji iniciraju trombogenezu¹³⁻¹⁵. Funkcionalnim i molekularnim ispitivanjima kao etiološki faktor koji je doveo do pojave tromboze hepatičnih vena kod prikazanog bolesnika dokazana je rezistencija na aktivirani protein C (APC) / mutacija faktora V Leiden. Prevalencija mutacije faktora V Leiden iznosi 5% kod zdrave populacije, a 25 – 31% kod bolesnika sa BCS¹⁶. Uloga faktora V u koagulaciji sastoji se u tome da aktivirani faktor V (FVa), u sadejstvu sa aktiviranim faktorom X (FXa), učestvuje u pretvaranju protrombina u trombin. Istovremeno sa procesom koagulacije, a kao zaštitni mehanizam od prekomerne koagulacije, odigrava se proces inhibicije. Dominantnu ulogu u inhibiciji procesa koagulacije imaju APC i aktivirani protein S. Oni se vezuju za FVa i sprečavaju dalju koagulaciju. Leiden mutacija faktora V dovodi do njegove rezistencije na dejstvo APC, a samim tim i izostanka inhibicije koagulacije. Bolesnici sa ovom mutacijom razvijaju tromboembolijske komplikacije u toku života uz sadejstvo potpomagaćih faktora¹⁷.

Postoje četiri metode lečenja BCS: medikamentna terapija, dekompresivna hirurģija, transjugularni portosistemski šant (TIPS) i transplantacija jetre. Nijedna od ovih metoda nije ključ za rešavanje problema kod BCS, ali njihova kombinacija omogućava dug period preživljavanja. Primena isključivo medikamentne terapije ima procenat smrtnosti od 86%. Zbog toga, portosistemski šant indikovano je što ranije kada se ova dijagnoza postavi¹⁸.

Od Cameronovog opisa iz 1978. godine mezenterikoatrijalni šant koristi se za portosistemsku dekompresiju kod BCS kada je prisutna okluzija ili kompresija VCI (redukcija luminalnog dijametra > 75% ili gradijent pritiska u pretkomori i infrahepatičnom segmentu VCI > 15 mmHg)¹⁹. Početni rezultati bili su vrlo ohrabrujući²⁰.

U literaturi navode se četiri kliničke forme BCS: fulminantna, akutna, subakutna i hronična²¹. Transplantacija jetre kao opcija lečenja uzima se u obzir kod bolesnika sa fulminantnim oblikom opstrukcije jetrih vena, ili kod onih bolesnika kod kojih postoji poslednji stadijum oštećenja jetre²².

Nakon transplantacije jetre petogodišnje preživljavanje bolesnika sa BCS je 89,4%, a nakon 10 godina 83,5%, što je slično, pa čak i bolje u odnosu na preživljavanje kod transplantacije jetre zbog drugih indikacija²³. Akutna i subakutna forma posledica su totalne ili parcijalne opstrukcije hepatičnih vena uz reverzibilna oštećenja jetre i kod njih je dekompresivni šant metoda izbora. Dekompresivne procedure koje se danas najčešće koriste su laterolateralni (L-L) portokavalni šant, mezokavalni šant sa autolognim ili sintetskim graftom i mezoatrijalni šant. Ukoliko ne postoji tromboza donje

šuplje vene, najčešće se preporučuje metoda L-L portokavalnog šanta²⁴. Drugi autori izbegavaju korišćenje portne vene za anastomozu i koriste gornju mezenteričnu venu, zato što se portna vena čuva za moguću transplantaciju jetre. Ukoliko postoji značajna disproporcija dijametra sintetskog grafa, koji treba da bude širok, i relativno uske vene mezenterike superior (VMS), mezoatrijalni šant se kreira u dva koraka: mezokavalnog i kavoatrijalnog šanta²⁵. U literaturi se navodi da kod četiri od pet bolesnika sa portokavalnim ili mezokavalnim šantom dolazi do tromboziranja šanta ako postoji tromboza donje šuplje vene, te je zato neophodno kod njih kreirati mezoatrijalni šant²⁶.

Kod našeg bolesnika VMS bila je prečnika 13 mm, kvalitetnog zida, pogodnog za kreiranje anastomoze. Operacija je izvedena u subakutnoj fazi bolesti. Bolesnik je preoperativno, perioperativno i postoperativno dobijao antikoagulantnu terapiju koja se i dalje sprovodi, sa ciljem prevencije tromboze grafa i prevencije progresije duboke venske tromboze desne noge. Iako postoje radovi koji opisuju trombolitički medikamentni tretman delotvornost se može očekivati samo kod onih slučajeva gde je vrlo rano data terapija^{27,28}. U trenutku postavljanja dijagnoze kod velikog broja bolesnika tromb je organizovan i efektivna liza nije moguća, ali generalno je prihvaćeno da antikoagulansi imaju efekat u kasnijoj prevenciji širenja tromba²⁹.

Bolesnici sa BSC koji je izazvan mutacijom faktora V Leiden najčešće se javljaju lekaru kada im je život ugrožen razvojem bolesti i za njih je jedino pravo lečenje transplantacija jetre, zato što jetra donora stvara novi, nemutirani faktor V. U zemljama u kojima sistem donatorstva organa nije na adekvatnom nivou, operacije kreiranja šantova predstavljaju jedinu mogućnost za preživljavanje ovakvih bolesnika do transplantacije.

Na kontroli posle dvanaest meseci od operacije prikazani bolesnik subjektivno se dobro osećao, a objektivno bio je prisutan odličan Karnofski index, uvećao je telesnu masu za četiri kilograma, laboratorijske vrednosti bile su u granicama referentnih vrednosti.

Operacija je izvedena u najpovoljnijoj fazi bolesti čime su sprečene ireverzibilne promene na jetri a dekompresija portnog sistema omogućila je vremensko premošćenje do transplantacije jetre.

Zaključak

Kod bolesnika koji imaju *Budd-Chiari* sindrom medikamentna terapija ne daje adekvatne rezultate, već dovodi do pogoršanja opšteg stanja. Pravovremeno izvedena operacija sprečava ireverzibilne promene na jetri, a dekompresija portnog sistema omogućava vremensko premošćenje do transplantacije jetre.

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POVLAČENJE ČLANKA/ ARTICLE
RETRACTION

Obaveštenje o povlačenju članka

Silva Dobrić, glavni i odgovorni urednik, Vojnosanitetski pregled

Članak “Prognostički značaj akutnog bloka grane kod bolesnika sa akutnim infarktom miokarda”, autora Mijailović V, Mrdović I, Ilić M, Ašanin M, Srđić M, Rajić D¹ povlači se na zahtev urednika jer su autori prekršili profesionalni i etički kodeks podnoseći navedeni članak redakciji Vojnosanitetskog pregleda, iako se on najvećim delom preklapa sa člankom koji je već bio dostavljen i publikovan u časopisu ABC – časopis urgentne medicine².

1. *Mijailović V, Mrdović I, Ilić M, Ašanin M, Srđić M, Rajić D.* Prognostički značaj akutnog bloka grane kod bolesnika sa akutnim infarktom miokarda. *Vojnosanit Pregl* 2008; 65(10): 733–7.
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Article retraction notice

Silva Dobrić, Editor-in-Chief, Vojnosanitetski pregled

The article „Prognostic significance of acute bundle branch block in patients with acute myocardial infarction“ by Mijailović V, Mrdović I, Ilić M, Ašanin M, Srđić M, Rajić D¹ was retracted at the request of the editors because the authors had infringed the normal professional and ethical codes by submitting the above article to the Vojnosanitetski pregled after an article with substantial overlap of its content (patients, methods, results and conclusions) had been accepted for publication and published in another journal, ABC – časopis urgentne medicine².

1. *Mijailović V, Mrdović I, Ilić M, Ašanin M, Srđić M, Rajić D.* „Prognostic significance of acute bundle branch block in patients with acute myocardial infarction“ *Vojnosanit Pregl* 2008; 65(10): 733–7. (Serbian)
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Tabele

Sve tabele štampaju se sa proredom 1,5 na posebnom listu hartije. Obeležavaju se arapskim brojevima, redosledom pojavljivanja, u desnom uglu (**Tabela 1**), a svakoj se daje kratak naslov. Objašnjenja se daju u fus-noti, ne u zaglavlju. Za fus-notu koristiti sledeće simbole ovim redosledom: *, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, **, ††, Svaka tabela mora da se pomene u tekstu. Ako se koriste tuđi podaci, obavezno ih navesti kao i svaki drugi podatak iz literature.

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Examples of references:

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Christensen S, Oppacher F. An analysis of Koza's computational effort statistic for genetic programming. In: *Foster JA, Lutton E, Miller J, Ryan C, Tettamanzi AG*, editors. Genetic programming. EuroGP 2002: Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Genetic Programming; 2002 Apr 3–5; Kinsdale, Ireland. Berlin: Springer; 2002. p. 182–91.

Abood S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. *Am J Nurs* [serial on the Internet]. 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12]; 102(6): [about 3 p.]. Available from: <http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm>

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