**Prognosis of epilepsy due to neurocysticercosis: a long term follow-up**

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**Objective:** Evaluate the prognosis of symptomatic epilepsy due to cerebral calcifications secondary to NCC.

**Methods:** An observational, descriptive, transversal, cohort type study of 83 patients with secondary epilepsy due to calcifications caused by NCC, who have been followed up as outpatients at a centre for epilepsy in Southern Brazil from 1991 to 2002. Diagnoses were based on clinical history, EEG findings, epidemiological settings and neuroimaging (CT scan). Were registered age, sex, patients with epilepsy in remission, in a stop regimen of AEDs (antiepileptic drugs), number of calcifications, neurological exam, follow up time, seizures frequency and history of SE (status epileptics). NCC were classified according Del Brutto as definitive, probable and possible, but only the two first were included in this study. Epileptic seizures, epileptic syndromes, active and remission epilepsy were classified according to the proposed by the Commission on Classification and Terminology of the ILAE.

Diagnoses were based on clinical history, EEG, findings, epidemiological settings and neuroimage findings. The Kaplan-Meyer test was applied to access the survival time. Fisher test were considered significant to p<0.05.

**Results:** Of the 83 patients included in the reporting study, 53 (63.9%) were women (picture 3). The mean age of the whole group was 30 ± 10.4 years [10 - 57] at admission (picture 5). The follow up average was 7.4 ± 2.5 years. CT scan showed lesion in all patients. 51 (61.4%) presented multiple lesions while 32 (38.6%) showed one (picture 1). Actually, epilepsy went into complete remission in 30.2% of patients, 12% were in withdrawal of AEDs, and 57.8% still presenting seizures (picture 10). Moreover most of sample had an important decrease of seizures (pictures 6-9) and decrease of SE (picture 4).

The Kaplan-Meyer test showed half of the sample went into remission after 8.3 years of starting seizures (picture 11).

**Conclusions:** NCC is a major cause of epilepsy in Latin America countries. In our ample, epilepsy related to NCC was a benign condition. It seems that natural history of this symptomatic epilepsy is going into remission as the time goes by.

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*References*


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*Figures*